

# The Anti-Slavery Reporter and Aborigines' Friend

Series V., Vol. 2, No. 8

January, 1913



Rubber Collectors, Kasai River, Upper Congo.

*(By permission of Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co.)*

Price Fourpence

Published under the sanction and at the Offices of

**The Anti-Slavery & Aborigines Protection Society**

51, Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge Road

London, S.W.

## CONTENTS

---

	PAGE
QUARTERLY NOTES . . . . .	261
THE PUTUMAYO RUBBER SLAVERY . . . . .	263
IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM MANAOS. . . . .	265
LEGAL STATUS OF INDIANS IN BRAZIL . . . . .	268
THE ANGOLA-SAN THOMÉ QUESTION. . . . .	268
LETTER TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE . . . . .	269
THE WEST AFRICAN LAND QUESTION . . . . .	271
LETTER TO THE COLONIAL OFFICE. . . . .	273
NORTHERN NIGERIA: PARLIAMENTARY PAPER . . . . .	274
PUBLIC FLOGGING OF NATIVE CLERKS . . . . .	275
PUNITIVE EXPEDITION: CORRESPONDENCE WITH C.O. . . . .	276
SIERRA LEONE: LETTER TO THE C.O. . . . .	277
SIERRA LEONE AUXILIARY . . . . .	278
PARLIAMENTARY: THE PUTUMAYO, NORTHERN NIGERIA, SAN THOMÉ	
GOLD COAST, SIERRA LEONE, ETC.. . . . .	279, etc.
THE NATIVE IN PARLIAMENT . . . . .	293
PORTRAIT: RT. HON. J. W. WILSON, M.P. . . . .	294
REVIEW, <i>Dawn in Darkest Africa</i> , by J. H. Harris . . . . .	296
COLOURED MEDICAL MEN AND GOVERNMENT SERVICE. . . . .	301
THE NEW HEBRIDES ABUSES . . . . .	302
AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINES . . . . .	304
SLAVERY IN MOROCCO . . . . .	305
AFRICANS IN LONDON: PROPOSED CONFERENCE . . . . .	305
EDUCATION IN BRITISH EAST AFRICA . . . . .	306
MEETINGS, ETC. . . . .	307
THE COMMITTEE . . . . .	308

# Anti-Slavery Reporter and Aborigines' Friend.

JANUARY, 1913.

*[The Editor, whilst grateful to all correspondents who may be kind enough to furnish him with information, desires to state that he is not responsible for the views stated by them, nor for quotations which may be inserted from other journals. The object of the journal is to spread information, and articles are necessarily quoted which may contain views or statements for which their authors can alone be held responsible.]*

---

## Quarterly Notes.

**The Putumayo.** PUBLIC opinion continues to be keenly interested in this subject. From the important papers which were sent to the Society from the Colombian Consul-General at Manaos, early in December—full particulars of which will be found on another page—the investigations of the British and American Consuls in the territory affected are unlikely to produce any information of value. It would also seem to be more than doubtful whether the atrocities have, as we have several times been assured, really ceased. Consul Michell, in his evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons, fully confirmed the information sent to us from Manaos, and showed that his tour in Putumayo territory had been rendered practically useless owing to the fact that Señor J. C. Arana, and the Peruvian Consul-General accompanied the British and American Consuls everywhere, and all their attempted private conversations with Indians were made impossible. The Consuls, he said, were thus “practically prisoners.”

Mr. Michell was inclined to think that for the moment, organised cruelty was not practised, but he admitted that he could not have found it out, if it was still going on. Sir Roger Casement has told the Select Committee that where native Indians are treated as wild beasts, possessing no human rights, there must of necessity be grievous abuses. He also emphasised the fact that none of the chief criminals have been arrested. The special *Comisario* who has been recently appointed by the local Government to “police” the river is a man of very bad reputation, and there is no other Government control. Evidence of great interest has been given by Sir Roger Casement, Mr. L. H. Barnes, Mr. Michell and others before the Select Committee, which is still occupied in investigating the question of the responsibility of the British Directors of the Peruvian Amazon Company.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY  
JAN 11  
1913  
EMBROIDERED

## CONTENTS

---

	PAGE
QUARTERLY NOTES . . . . .	261
THE PUTUMAYO RUBBER SLAVERY . . . . .	263
IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM MANAOS. . . . .	265
LEGAL STATUS OF INDIANS IN BRAZIL . . . . .	268
THE ANGOLA-SAN THOMÉ QUESTION. . . . .	268
LETTER TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE . . . . .	269
THE WEST AFRICAN LAND QUESTION . . . . .	271
LETTER TO THE COLONIAL OFFICE. . . . .	273
NORTHERN NIGERIA: PARLIAMENTARY PAPER . . . . .	274
PUBLIC FLOGGING OF NATIVE CLERKS . . . . .	275
PUNITIVE EXPEDITION: CORRESPONDENCE WITH C.O. . . . .	276
SIERRA LEONE: LETTER TO THE C.O. . . . .	277
SIERRA LEONE AUXILIARY . . . . .	278
PARLIAMENTARY: THE PUTUMAYO, NORTHERN NIGERIA, SAN THOMÉ	
GOLD COAST, SIERRA LEONE, ETC.. . . . .	279, etc.
THE NATIVE IN PARLIAMENT . . . . .	293
PORTRAIT: RT. HON. J. W. WILSON, M.P. . . . .	294
REVIEW, <i>Dawn in Darkest Africa</i> , by J. H. Harris . . . . .	296
COLOURED MEDICAL MEN AND GOVERNMENT SERVICE. . . . .	301
THE NEW HEBRIDES ABUSES . . . . .	302
AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINES . . . . .	304
SLAVERY IN MOROCCO . . . . .	305
AFRICANS IN LONDON: PROPOSED CONFERENCE . . . . .	305
EDUCATION IN BRITISH EAST AFRICA . . . . .	306
MEETINGS, ETC. . . . .	307
THE COMMITTEE . . . . .	308



# Anti-Slavery Reporter and Aborigines' Friend.

JANUARY, 1913.

[The Editor, whilst grateful to all correspondents who may be kind enough to furnish him with information, desires to state that he is not responsible for the views stated by them, nor for quotations which may be inserted from other journals. The object of the journal is to spread information, and articles are necessarily quoted which may contain views or statements for which their authors can alone be held responsible.]

---

## Quarterly Notes.

**The Putumayo.** PUBLIC opinion continues to be keenly interested in this subject. From the important papers which were sent to the Society from the Colombian Consul-General at Manaos, early in December—full particulars of which will be found on another page—the investigations of the British and American Consuls in the territory affected are unlikely to produce any information of value. It would also seem to be more than doubtful whether the atrocities have, as we have several times been assured, really ceased. Consul Michell, in his evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons, fully confirmed the information sent to us from Manaos, and showed that his tour in Putumayo territory had been rendered practically useless owing to the fact that Señor J. C. Arana, and the Peruvian Consul-General accompanied the British and American Consuls everywhere, and all their attempted private conversations with Indians were made impossible. The Consuls, he said, were thus “practically prisoners.”

Mr. Michell was inclined to think that for the moment, organised cruelty was not practised, but he admitted that he could not have found it out, if it was still going on. Sir Roger Casement has told the Select Committee that where native Indians are treated as wild beasts, possessing no human rights, there must of necessity be grievous abuses. He also emphasised the fact that none of the chief criminals have been arrested. The special Comisario who has been recently appointed by the local Government to “police” the river is a man of very bad reputation, and there is no other Government control. Evidence of great interest has been given by Sir Roger Casement, Mr. L. H. Barnes, Mr. Michell and others before the Select Committee, which is still occupied in investigating the question of the responsibility of the British Directors of the Peruvian Amazon Company.



**The Devil's Paradise.**

MR. W. E. HARDENBURG's narrative of his travels in the Putumayo territory of the Peruvian Amazon Company and of the horrors which he discovered were being systematically perpetrated on the native Indians engaged in rubber collecting there, has been published in book form, edited by the well-known writer on Peru, Mr. C. Reginald Enock, who has a wide experience of conditions in Latin America. It will be remembered that this was the narrative which having been placed before our Society and *Truth* in 1909, led to the exposure which resulted in Sir Roger Casement being sent out to the Putumayo territory. The revelations of the book, horrible and revolting as they are, have been fully confirmed by subsequent investigations and the publication of this book ought to be of great service in throwing further light upon a question which has so deeply stirred the country.

We hope to notice the book, which is published by Mr. Fisher Unwin under the title *The Putumayo: The Devil's Paradise*, more fully in our next issue.

**San Thomé.**

IT has been reported that a group of British capitalists have just returned to Lisbon, having inspected the plantations in the island of San Thomé. They were accompanied by certain Portuguese officials, and it is stated that they have decided to purchase six large cocoa plantations at a cost of £1,500,000.

**British recognition of Slavery.**

IN *The Spectator* of November 23 the following passage occurs in a review of Mr. Harris' book *Dawn in Darkest Africa* :—

**Slavery.**

"We fear that many Englishmen are allowing their senses to become dulled in the matter of slavery. One hardly knows what our grandfathers would have said and thought if they had been told that Englishmen would consent at this period in any shape or form to the recognition of slavery. Mr. Harris says that over large areas of Southern Nigeria, which, of course, is a British colony, the police recapture slaves and restore them to their owners. It will be remembered that some two years ago a slave was handed back to his owner from a British ship—an ironical reversal of the immortal scene when the slave trade was legally ended by the seizure of a slave from a ship in London and the successful restoration to him of his liberty. Mr. Harris gives the following specimen of a warrant issued for the recapture of a slave in Southern Nigeria. . . . The fault here is a weak concession to a common custom in West Africa among the neighbours of Great Britain."

**Questions in Parliament.**

SINCE the publication of the October *Reporter* such a large number of questions have been asked in the House of Commons upon native affairs that the Editor is unable to do more than publish a selection of the most important.

**A New  
Consul.**

WE congratulate the Parliamentary Committee in having secured a promise from Sir Edward Grey to appoint a Consul for the islands in the Gulf of Guinea.

**Dr. Sapara.**

DR. SAPARA leaves in the course of a few weeks for Lagos. The Society has received great help from him during his stay in England. In our last issue we referred to him as a member of our Southern Nigeria Auxiliary; this was an error on our part, for we learn that his official duties prevent his being definitely connected with the local Committee.

**Finance.**

THE ever-increasing demands upon the Society for information, the growth of our propaganda, and the cost involved in keeping Portuguese Slavery and the Peruvian Atrocities before public opinion is involving a heavy strain upon the Society's funds. Our subscription list has increased considerably, but we have lost several old subscribers, and no legacies have come to us during the year.

---

### The Putumayo Rubber Slavery.

WE referred in our last issue to the petition which was about to be presented to the Court by certain shareholders of the Peruvian Amazon Company for its compulsory winding up, and the removal of J. C. Arana, the liquidator. The petitioners' counsel submitted that his clients were entitled to an order on three grounds, viz., the terrible cruelties inflicted on the native labourers, the fact that Arana was one of the vendors to the Company and manager of their estates in the Putumayo, and was a creditor of the Company for £55,000. It was contended that under the circumstances Arana was not a fit and proper person to be liquidator. The Company's counsel asked for an adjournment in order to enable Senor Arana to meet the charges and the Judge granted an adjournment until February for this purpose.

The Select Committee of the House of Commons, which was appointed to consider the responsibility of the British directors of the Company for the Putumayo horrors, and whether any change in the law is desirable to prevent the machinery of the Companies' Act being used in connection with similar practices in foreign countries, has been sitting each week since the beginning of November, and some very important evidence, throwing further light on the whole horrible story, has been given.

The witnesses hitherto heard include representatives of the Foreign and Colonial Offices, Sir Roger Casement, who has given evidence on two occasions; Mr. L. H. Barnes, who was a leading member of the Company's Commission of Inquiry sent out in 1911; the Assistant Editor of *Truth*, who spoke as to his connection with Mr. Hardenberg, and Mr. Gielgud, who was Secretary and Manager of the Company in 1910, and was also

sent out on the Commission of that year. The Secretaries of the Society gave evidence as to its connection with the matter from the autumn of 1909, when Mr. Hardenberg first brought his narrative to the Society's office, to the appointment of Sir Roger Casement as investigator by our Government, and described the responsibility which the Society had undertaken in the matter.

Sir Roger Casement gave a very frank and illuminating account of the criminal doings of the Aranas in the Putumayo, and described the system as not being one of commerce at all, but of organised piracy, deliberately designed. It was matter of common talk in the district that the Company's agents had been concerned in the raids of 1908 on the Colombian settlers in the Caraparana district, and in one case twenty-three tons of rubber found in Colombian trading settlements were actually brought to London as the property of the Company. When Senor Arana and the Prefect of Iquitos visited the territory after these massacres, the men who had been arrested and kept in custody for the crimes were released by Arana's order, and no one was punished. Sir R. Casement showed that it was impossible for Arana to be ignorant of the crimes which were being systematically committed.

From his interviews with the Directors in London in 1911, Sir Roger derived the impression that they were too much "immersed" in the financial position of the Company, which they wanted to save, to care much about reform. He had found no trace of supervision or control by the Board over their agents on the Putumayo.

Sir R. Casement told the Committee that wherever in Peru there are wild Indians, who are regarded as having no human rights, but as beasts who may be hunted and shot down with absolute impunity, the Putumayo system, or something like it, is inevitable; such abuses follow naturally the denial of all protection to the natives. Sir Roger quoted statements which had recently appeared in the Peruvian Press as to the raiding of the wild Indians, and their sale as slaves; a petition to Congress has been presented as to the depopulation of the country which is caused by these man-hunts. Senor Arana has been lately accused of selling 112 Indian families, who were conveyed on his steamer. He denies the charge, but there is no dispute as to the fact of the sale having taken place.

On the second occasion of giving evidence Sir R. Casement showed some trade articles such as were sold to the Indians in exchange for rubber at extortionate prices, which he had himself bought at the Company's stores; these included a single-barrel gun which would cost the Company about 29s. For this an Indian was forced to work for two years bringing n 350 kilos of rubber, costing some £57 or £58, during that period and receiving no food. A hat, rough cotton shirt and pantaloons were also

shown, for which "trash" the witness said the Indians had to exchange 60 kilos or about £10 worth of rubber.

Another witness of great importance was Mr. L. H. Barnes, who was sent out on the Company's Commission in 1910, and who declared his agreement with Sir R. Casement's conclusions; he bore out the statement of the latter that no trace could be found that the London directors, who ought to have known what was going on, had inquired into the cost of labour or knew how their money was spent. Mr. Barnes described the system of labour as forced labour of the worst kind which developed into "something like slave driving." The Indians were nothing better than slaves. Women were freely handed from one employee to another. This witness spoke of the Indians as "a happy smiling race," and it struck him as strange that all Europeans carried arms which they professed to carry for self-protection.

The last witnesses heard were Mr. Cazès, who was, until lately, unpaid British Consul at Iquitos, and Mr. Michell, who was appointed Consul in November, 1911. Mr. Michell's account of his tour of the Putumayo district with Mr. Fuller, the American Consul, was extraordinary; they were "shadowed" everywhere by Señor Arana and the Peruvian Consul-General, who successfully prevented their finding out anything of importance. The two Consuls have signed a joint statement to this effect. Thus the information contained in the documents referred to below, which was communicated by the Society to the Press, is entirely confirmed.

A report has been published from New York that an attempt has been made to lynch the two Commissioners, Dr. Paredes and Señor Valcarcel, who were sent up the Putumayo to investigate on behalf of the Government of Peru. The people in the rubber fields are said to have started rioting at the instigation of influential interests, and assaulted the Commissioners, who were severely injured, in the presence of an official who did not attempt to suppress the disturbances.

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM MANAOS.

The Society received from the Colombian Consul-General at Manaus early in December copies of six despatches addressed by him to Mr. Michell, the British Consul at Iquitos. The despatches cover a period from August 22 to October 18 last. The main object is an attempt to show that every effort was made by Senhor Julio Arana, the present liquidator of the Peruvian Amazon Company, to prevent the British and American Consuls from discovering the actual conditions on the Putumayo to-day. It is obvious that the Colombian Consul was at some pains to demonstrate to the Consuls the right of Colombia to certain territories on the Putumayo; at the same time, however, some of the allegations provide very painful reading.



The Colombian Consul asserts that the British and American Consuls were accompanied not only by Arana, but also by his brother-in-law, Senhor Zumaeta, brother of one of the most notorious of the Putumayo criminals, that they all travelled on the steamer *El Liberal*, whose " whistle puts panic in the hearts of the inhabitants of those regions," and that when they left by steamer from Iquitos—

" the Agency of the Peruvian Amazon Company sent also a courier who goes by land from Iquitos to El Encanto in five days, and from there the news is transmitted by telephone to La Chorrera (the Putumayo headquarters) and this is sufficient for the guilty parties to fly. . . ."

Finally, the Consul states that the interpreter secured for the Commission by Zumaeta, was the Huitoto mistress of Andres O'Donell who had been arrested by the British Authorities in Barbados, and that the " feminine feelings " of this woman—

" must have been exploited in order to help the interests of the whites to the detriment of her former companions of the wilderness. She must have understood, undoubtedly, that from all that she can do in favour of the whites, the liberty of her lover depends."

One of the matters which has engaged the close attention of those watching the Putumayo question for the last three years has been the fate of the wives and families of the Colombians massacred early in 1908. As they were known to have been carried off alive, Sir Edward Grey was persistently questioned as to their fate throughout June, 1910. Sir Roger Casement apparently found no trace of them, but the Colombian Consul in his despatch dated August 22, now says :—

" But if the Commission headed by your Excellency stopped at a place called El Encanto it must have seen there a Colombian young woman, Emilia Serrano, daughter of David Serrano, one of the first victims. It is known that when Serrano and his people were murdered several Colombian women were carried away captive, possibly, therefore, others might be discovered at El Encanto besides Emilia Serrano."

Senhor Jose Torralbo declares that the Arana firm has done everything possible to assist its criminal agents in escaping from justice.

" They have shown their greatest gratitude toward those that have distinguished themselves most for their cruelty. The notorious Carlos Miranda, if it is true that he does not at the present moment occupy a position as a Boss at any of the stations, is, however, chief of explorations, and Benlisario Suarez, who until recently was in the City, boasted himself of having received warning from the bosses to escape. One of the principal points of investigation ought to be—whether any of the principal criminals are still employed by the Company ; I refer to the thieves and incendiaries I mentioned above. One of them still occupying his post would be enough to prove that the depredations are still continuing, for cruelty to their fellowmen has become to them a second nature."

The Consul asserts that Loayza is still in charge of El Encanto. This

man figures again and again in Sir Roger Casement's report, and it was under his instructions that the Barbadian Alphonzo King committed crimes for which Sir Roger Casement warned him he might even yet have to answer "with his neck."

Senhor Torralbo remarks: "Loayza remaining at his post constitutes the best proof of the continuation of a criminal state of affairs."\*

The most disquieting allegation in these documents is contained in a despatch dated September 2nd last. Senhor Torralbo says:—

"I suppose your Excellencies visited the stations at 'Matanzas,' 'Ultimo Retiro,' 'Sabana,' 'Sta. Cataline,' 'San Victor;' if so, your Excellencies should have had occasion to see corpses by the hundred, for even in *March of this year* a passenger had occasion to count up to a hundred and twenty-two heads of men and women and children at one single spot in the neighbourhood of said Stations. These unburied corpses constitute a permanent denunciation of the perversity of sentiments of the assassins. Another crime which as yet has not been stopped is the traffic of Indians. Those unhappy creatures are stolen from their families in order to take them out of the region and sell them in the City like donkeys. The very same day on which your Excellencies entered Putumayo on a humanitarian mission, even at the same hour at which your entrance was effected, the steamer Manaos had taken on board at San Antonio, mouth of the river Iza or Putumayo twelve Indians, eight boys and four girls between eight and fourteen years old. At the mouth of the Yavari river they were left in the house of Senior Jose Pereira da Rocha and from there re-embarked for the city in the launch *Hamburg*.

In the despatch dated October 17, the British Consul is informed of the whereabouts of three of the most notorious criminals of the Putumayo. Abelardo Aguero, late chief of Abisinia, who Sir Roger Casement believed had escaped to Brazil, is reported to have been given seventy Indians by the Peruvian Amazon Company, and is now settled as "a tenant of the Suarez firm at a point named Chapacura in Bolivia." It is further alleged that "every four months he sends a young woman to his fellow partner in carnage at Putumayo," the well known Augusto Comenez (obviously Augusto Jimenez, late sub-chief of Morelia), who lives at present at Cobiga, in Bolivia. It would also seem from the correspondence that Victor Macedo, the local Manager of the Company, is also at Cobiga with his sub-Agent, Jimenez. There is ground for believing that Colonel Suarez has already taken action with a view to the arrest, or at least the expulsion, of Abelardo Aguero who is reported to be at Chapacura.

Full translations of the documents in Spanish, of which the above is a *précis*, were forwarded to the Foreign Office and to the House of Commons Committee.

---

\* Consul Michell's evidence before the House of Commons Committee has established the fact that this man undoubtedly still occupies his post of authority at El Encanto—Ed. A.-S. R.]

## LEGAL STATUS OF INDIANS IN BRAZIL.

FROM the South American supplement of *The Times* of November 26 we are glad to learn that a Bill has been introduced by the Minister of Agriculture for the improvement of the lot and condition of the Indians in Brazil.

"Brazil," the correspondent writes, "is anxious to justify her attitude towards her Indian citizens in the eyes of the world, and this Bill should certainly help in this direction. . . . In his memorandum Dr. Toledo calls attention to the fact that it would be advisable as soon as possible, in view of the fact that the service for the protection of the Indians is now in full working order, to regulate the status of this portion of the population.

"The history of the Indians in Brazil is interesting. As early as 1537 Paul III declared that they were men like others, and therefore free, while regulations were drawn up in 1548 and 1570, which, though somewhat contradictory to each other, yet made for the liberty of the Indian. Later on, however, the Pope, alarmed at the atrocities which had occurred in Mexico and Peru, sanctioned slavery as a means of avoiding these horrors. In 1639 Pope Urban VIII excommunicated the captors and vendors of the Indians, but in 1653 the Portuguese Government once more allowed the establishment of slavery. Brazilian legislation dealing with the Indians dates from the Royal rescripts of Dom John VI, in 1808, 1809 and 1811, all of which were favourable to slavery. In 1831 the Law of October 27, in the Regency of Padre Feijó, repealed the orders of Dom John and considered the Indians as orphans in the eyes of the law. A decree of June 3, 1833, instructed the Judge, whose business it was to look after orphans and their property, to do the same for the Indians. This decree was confirmed by the Regulations of March 15, 1842, and the standing of Indians in Brazil has remained the same down to the present day.

"The first step which would be taken under the Bill, if it becomes law, would be the recognition of all Indians born on Brazilian soil as Brazilian citizens. Furthermore, they would be classified, registered, provided with a special penal code, and with safeguards for such tribes as are not yet sufficiently civilised to look after themselves completely as full-blown citizens. Undoubtedly the general lines of the Bill are excellent and will greatly strengthen the hands of the service for the protection of the Indians, whose efforts so far have been considerably handicapped by the legal status of those with whom they have to deal."

---

### The Angola-San Thomé Question.

THE following resolution on this subject was passed by the Committee in October and forwarded to the Foreign Office. Subsequent communications have taken place with the Department and a letter has been addressed to Sir E. Grey, the terms of which follow.

#### RESOLUTION.

The Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society views with grave concern the disclosures made in the White Book issued in August last,



upon contract labour in Portuguese colonies. These disclosures confirm the charges of slave-trading and slavery in the colonies of Portugal in West Africa and thus constitute a clear violation of both Anglo-Portuguese and international treaties.

The Society holds that should Portugal fail to abolish slavery in her dominions effectively and without delay, it will be compelled to call upon His Majesty's Government to terminate forthwith the Alliance now existing with Portugal: since the British people will, we are confident, refuse to continue an Alliance which involves the resources of Britain in the maintenance of slavery and the slave trade.

THE RIGHT HON. SIR EDWARD GREY, BART., K.G., ETC.

12th December, 1912.

SIR,—

The Committee of this Society has had under consideration the communication of October 14 last (No. 42326/12), in which His Majesty's Government express inability to "concur in the views expressed" in the Society's resolution upon "present conditions in Portuguese West Africa." Our Committee understands that in the view of His Majesty's Government the White Book (Cd. 6322) cannot be said to confirm the existence to-day of slave trading and slave owning in the Portuguese colonies of West Africa.

The Committee of the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society has recognised, notably in its memorandum of July 15 last, that certain reforms had taken place which included liberation and repatriation, although unhappily in a form which often imposes great, as well as wholly unnecessary, suffering on the repatriated, but the Society holds that the fact of slave trading and slave owning in the colony remains.

We also gladly recognise some other attempts at reform, but we do not consider that the temporary cessation of official recruiting, the liberation and partial repatriation of some slaves, and the European housing and clothing of contract labourers and slaves, disposes of the existence of slavery and the slave trade. Furthermore, our Committee does not deny the existence of regulations which stipulate for elaborate vitality statistics, the wearing of high collars, bonnets and glue-covered aprons to protect the slaves and labourers from the bite of the sleeping sickness fly, and many other humane regulations which, however, are ridiculed by every one in the colonies. Our Committee has always admitted the prodigality of Portuguese regulations, but it cannot be overlooked that on the island of San Thomé there has been a succession of twenty-five Governors within the short space of ten years. The White Book provides the explanation for this constant change, and confirms the Society's attitude in holding that the Governors sent out to give effect to these regulations have "been to a great extent paralysed by the power of vested interests." This grave admission,

\*

made by the Portuguese Government and disclosed in the White Book, is, in the opinion of our Committee, one of the most important confirmations which that document makes upon the views held by this Society.

Our Committee fully appreciates and supports most heartily the words used by yourself when Monsieur Du Bocage called at the Foreign Office on November 22, 1909, the text of which we reproduce :—

" I observed to him that I had been very much relieved to hear that the recruiting of labour in Angola had been suspended. The conditions of recruiting in the interior had been exceedingly bad, and the facts were known in this country.

" M. du Bocage said recruiting had been suspended till the end of January, when a new governor would arrive who was fully alive to the situation and would prevent abuses.

" I explained to him that the information I had received from private sources placed beyond doubt the fact that it had been the custom for natives to be captured in the interior by people who were really slave-dealers ; the captured natives were then brought down to the coast and sent to work in the Portuguese islands. This could easily be stopped if Portuguese officials would hold an enquiry into the case of each group of natives who came down to the coast, in order to make sure that the natives had come voluntarily and had been engaged voluntarily. If this enquiry was held in public any one could attend it, and be satisfied that abuses were not being allowed.

" I emphasised the strength of feeling in this country on the subject, and the certainty that abuses in the interior had been very great."

The first two observations do not, of course, concern present day issues, but the third paragraph demonstrates the conditions under which the majority of the unfortunate men and women on the islands to-day were originally obtained. All the information in the possession of this Society goes to demonstrate the strict accuracy of the grave indictment contained in that paragraph.

We beg to recall the fact that since 1888 no less than 67,614 natives, secured in the main, if not entirely, under those conditions, have been shipped to the islands, without taking into consideration the smuggling, which there is no doubt has been practised for years. We are fully aware that on the islands some 30,000 of these people have died, but there still remain over 35,000.

Mr. Consul Mackie, whose experience is not only large, but unique, describes in a convincing manner the process by which these natives have been enslaved :—

" The Angolan native is contracted in a wild state under circumstances of doubtful legality, and is so convinced that he is a slave that nothing short of repatriation, which should therefore be compulsory, would serve to persuade him that, at least in the eyes of the law, he is a free agent. It would obviously be useless to argue that the ' servical ' is not a slave merely because

he is provided with a legal contract, renewable at the option of the employer, in which he is officially proclaimed to be free."

Of the natives obtained by such process and shipped to the islands, none were allowed to return until the year 1908, and between that date and the early part of this year less than 2,000 had been liberated.

His Majesty's Government is in possession of accumulated evidence upon the slave trading and slave owning practices of the Portuguese colonies of West Africa, charges which, as Sir Arthur Hardinge emphasised only in October of last year, "did not emanate solely from missionaries or philanthropic sentimentalists."

Our Committee attaches some significance to the fact that the words used by yourself on November 22, 1909, found an additional confirmation in the considered and written statement of Senhor Vasconcellos addressed to Sir Arthur Hardinge on October 23, 1911, wherein the Portuguese Foreign Minister himself admits that certain Europeans had been found guilty of slave trading. Our Committee desires to point out that this admission is further proof, if such were needed, of the existence of slavery on the mainland, or of smuggling to the islands, because at this period, according to official statements, all traffic in human beings for the islands had ceased. In a word, this Society claims a verdict in favour of its contentions, on the official admissions contained in the White Book.

In conclusion, the Committee of this Society holds that should Portugal fail to fulfil the pledges repeatedly given to Great Britain to abolish without delay slavery and slave trading as now exposed in the recent White Book, then it will feel bound to urge the nation to call upon His Majesty's Government to withdraw from the alliance, which binds the British Government to use the Imperial resources in the defence of the Portuguese possessions. Our Committee is convinced that the British public, when it fully realises the facts of this case, will refuse to continue an alliance which may at any time involve this country in the defence of colonies in which slave owning and slave trading prevail.

We have, etc.,

TRAVERS BUXTON, *Secretary.*

JOHN H. HARRIS, *Organising Secretary.*

---

### The West African Land Question.

THE efforts of our Society to persuade the Colonial Office authorities to modify their attitude as to the method of obtaining native evidence on this question have unfortunately thus far proved of no avail.

Bishop Johnson of Lagos, our corresponding member, and the honoured President of the Lagos Auxiliary, has addressed a long and valuable letter to our Committee from which we publish several extracts, which give a

clear explanation of the attitude of the Auxiliary and of the educated natives generally on the subject.

"I am writing to express to you both on my own behalf and on behalf of our Committee and Society also our high, warm and most grateful appreciation of the lively interest and concern which the Parent Committee is exercising in the subject and the efforts it is making to protect the native population of Southern Nigeria in their rights to the land which has always been their own since thousands of years ago when they with other members of the negro race migrated from the Egyptian territory, crossed the Great Desert and found their way into these parts where they have settled, against the greed of English capitalists and the cupidity of native African kings and chiefs, and also against such acts of the British Government's as may tend in any measure to affect those rights.

"The subject, as you may imagine, has produced a considerable measure of uneasiness among the people, and throughout the country generally as far as a report regarding it and the very serious and grave possibilities in it to them has reached." . . .

"It has been alleged that the native kings and chiefs of Southern Nigeria are owners of the soil of the country; or are trustees of it for the people under their respective rule; and as the Protecting Government is chief paramount over all, this right of ownership belongs to it *par excellence*. This has been said by some Government officials and other Europeans with so much confidence that one would think it is absolutely true; but it is neither absolutely nor relatively so. Speaking from my knowledge of the Yoruba Country, where I have laboured as a native Christian missionary in one district and in another during the last thirty-eight years, and of the Niger Delta Territory and some parts of interior Ibo land also, with which I have been officially connected during the last eleven years, I am able to say I know of no section of either country which has regarded its kings or chiefs as owners of its soil or even as trustees of it for the people. Ownership throughout the different nations is either individual or communal. The king or chief, who also has his own portion of the soil as his private or family property, is regarded only as a protector of individuals, families, townships and tribes in their respective rights, which include also that of ownership of the soil. The native kings or chiefs have then not this right to transfer to the British Government as Chief paramount." . . .

"The people in Southern Nigeria would welcome the protection which the British Government desires and is able to give them and be most thankful for it; but they are not willing to sacrifice the right of ownership to the soil of their own land to the Government for it, especially as they do not see that the protection which they are prepared to welcome cannot be given without this.

"Unfortunately the Government had caused itself to be distrusted in respect of the use it might make of the right of ownership if it were felt desirable to concede it to it. It may trade largely with it for its own advantage, if this can be properly said, as it has done and is doing with some portions of land which it has acquired and declared to the Government Reservations." . . .

"The ownership which the people claim as theirs to the soil of their

country is not limited to the surface soil ; it extends to the subsoil also and to whatever minerals that subsoil contains." . . .

" I may observe that whilst legislation is proposed to be employed to protect natives of the country in respect of their soil against the greed and cruel monopoly of English capitalists who would, it is feared, convert them to mere tenants at will of their own lands, possession of which through a long leasehold or otherwise, many of them, it is feared and that rightly too, might desire and endeavour to effect, and against the cupidity, selfishness and ignorance of native chiefs who might for a mess of pottage barter away their own birthright and that of generations to come also, the Government is assuming the right of ownership and seeking to convert the people to mere occupants and users of their own soil. It is difficult to see any great difference between the preventive remedy proposed and the disease it is intended to ward off.

" Our Auxiliary Committee is very thankful to you for the efforts you have successfully made to get the Colonial Office to consent and decide to accept native evidence to be given along with others before the Commission that the Government has appointed to sit upon an inquiry into the Land Tenure question."

The Society has now approached Mr. Harcourt to ask if he will receive a deputation including some natives of the West Coast after the Departmental Committee has reported, in order that their views may be heard before any legislation takes place.

The following letter has been addressed to the Colonial Secretary :—

*December 16, 1912.*

SIR,—

The Committee of this Society has again had under consideration the question of land tenure in West Africa, particularly with reference to the local unrest which is not only widely prevalent, but appears to be increasing in intensity, and we are instructed to submit for your consideration a proposal which if it were accepted would, we believe, greatly relieve the local situation.

It seems to us that after the report of the Departmental Committee has been presented to His Majesty's Government, a period must necessarily elapse before the passing of fresh legislation. We are instructed, therefore, to ascertain whether you would be good enough to receive during that interval a deputation from this Society, to include a small delegation of natives from the colonies affected by the proposed legislation. The object of the deputation would be that of making representation to you as to the necessity of either amending or strengthening any of the recommendations made by the Departmental Committee.

Our Committee fully realizes that it may be difficult for you to give a definite promise with reference to a report which may not be presented for some months, but we are confident that even a conditional promise to receive such deputation, in order that native representation might be made



direct to yourself, would be received with great appreciation by the native communities of West Africa.

If this proposal should, as we hope, meet with your approval, our Committee would spare no effort to secure as members of the deputation a representative body of men from West Africa.

We have, etc.,

TRAVERS BUXTON,  
*Secretary.*

JOHN H. HARRIS,  
*Organising Secretary.*

---

## Northern Nigeria.

### PARLIAMENTARY PAPER.\*

THE Annual Report of this Protectorate for 1911 was published in November. The Acting Governor reports progress in almost every department, and the reports of the provincial officers all speak of steady and persistent progress in the administration. There was an entire absence of disturbances requiring the employment of troops, with the exception of two cases in which districts were patrolled by a political officer and military escort.

As showing the success which has attended the attempts to suppress slavery, the Report states that it is pleasing to note a steady diminution in the offences against the slavery laws, the return for this year showing sixty-six cases as against 134 in the previous year. The suppression of slavery is mentioned as one of the principal duties, along with the investigation of crime and the arrest of offenders, etc., upon which the police were engaged.

As regards labour for the mines, the Government Inspector reports that the supply is quite inadequate to the needs of the mining community, but that the shortage is likely to disappear as the natives become more aware of the opportunities for earning good wages.

An important Proclamation mentioned in the Report is that referring to Land and Native Rights, which was passed on the recommendations of a committee appointed to consider the question of land tenure. The object of the measure is described in the Preamble as being to assure and preserve the customary rights of the natives to enjoy the land of the Protectorate and its fruits, to preserve native land customs as far as possible, and to define by law the rights and obligations of the Government in regard to land, and also the rights and obligations of cultivators.

---

\* Cd. 6007-38.

Education is eagerly sought by the natives, and the native teachers show great aptitude for their work. The school at Nassarawa has prospered, owing, as the teacher reports, to the principle laid down at the beginning, viz. the preservation of the native and his gradual development on lines adapted to his mental and physical condition. The native courts are working well. There was, in every Province, an increase in the number of cases tried, but in one particular this is said to be a matter for congratulation as showing an increase of confidence in the courts on the part of the natives.

#### PUBLIC FLOGGING OF NATIVE CLERKS.

THE following letter was addressed to the Colonial Office in November on this matter as to which the questions addressed in Parliament to the Colonial Secretary will be found on another page. It has at present received no more than a formal acknowledgment.

*November 2, 1912.*

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LEWIS HARCOURT, M.P.

SIR,—

I am directed by my Committee to write to you in regard to the punishment of a public flogging recently inflicted at Zaria in Northern Nigeria on two clerks in Government employ for kicking a football about in an open space near to the market place. We understand from your reply in the House of Commons that the punishment was ordered by the Native Court under the Native Court Proclamation with the consent of the Resident. Under that Act it would appear that any African native, of whatever position, is liable to be subjected to this degrading punishment, and my Committee records its protest against the colour discrimination involved, as one which is unjust, liable to serious abuse, and likely—not unreasonably—to exacerbate native feeling against the authorities. My Committee holds strongly that the punishment of flogging should at least be restricted to persons found guilty of crimes against morality, and that its infliction for an offence of a trivial character can only bring the law into disrepute. Further, I am to urge that a whipping carried out in public in the degrading manner described should have been precluded by Section 9 of the Native Court Proclamation which provides against any punishment "which is repugnant to natural justice and humanity."

My Committee submits that if the punishment of flogging is found necessary, it ought to be inflicted in private and under strict supervision, and urges that instructions be given to the Resident of such a character as to prevent the carrying out of such vindictive sentences in the future.

I have, etc., etc.,

(Signed) TRAVERS BUXTON,

*Secretary.*

## PUNITIVE EXPEDITION.

THE following correspondence has taken place between the Society and the Colonial Office :—

*November 4, 1912.*

TO THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,  
COLONIAL OFFICE.

SIR,—

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th instant enclosing a copy of the answer given to Mr. T. E. Harvey, M.P., to the effect that 179 natives were killed in the carrying out of punitive measures taken by the Government in Northern Nigeria as a consequence of the murder of Mr. D. A. Campbell, and that the Secretary of State is communicating with the Governor for further explanations on the subject.

My Committee, as already intimated, considers this matter to be serious, and would be glad to know whether a Commission of Inquiry, to include other than official members, will be appointed.

The Committee submits that it is of importance to obtain full particulars of the circumstances which led to the sending of troops to the spot where the trouble occurred, and the results of this action, and urges that such report may be made public.

I am, etc.,  
TRAVERS BUXTON,  
*Secretary.*

DOWNING STREET,  
*November 14, 1912.*

SIR,—

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Harcourt to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of November 4 with regard to the measures taken by the Government of Northern Nigeria in consequence of the murder by natives of Mr. D. A. Campbell.

2. In reply I am to say that, as the Governor has been instructed to furnish further explanations in the matter, the Secretary of State as at present advised sees no reason for appointing a Commission of Inquiry.

I am, etc.,  
H. J. READ,  
*For the Under-Secretary of State.*

THE SECRETARY TO THE  
ANTI-SLAVERY AND ABORIGINES PROTECTION SOCIETY.



## Sierra Leone.

THE following paragraph appeared in *The Times* of November 23 :—

### "THE HUMAN LEOPARD SOCIETY.

"According to a letter received from Freetown, Sierra Leone, the Human Leopard Society, whose horrible secret rites gave rise some years ago to drastic measures of repression, would seem to be as active as ever. For some time past the Administration has been endeavouring to cope with a series of murders and cases of symbolic cannibalism, carried out in the usual mysterious manner.

"The authorities have finally been driven to arrest practically all the chiefs, to the number of several hundred, in the Sherbro district, to which the operations of the society are happily confined."

The Society has received communications from its Auxiliary at Sierra Leone in regard to the special legislation, which is proposed, to deal with these Human Leopard and Alligator Societies, to which, while the Auxiliary is of course at one with the Administration in desiring the extermination of such unlawful societies, exception is taken in some respects. It questions whether the statement that "many murders have recently been committed in the Colony under the influence of these Societies" can be sustained by facts.

The Society has addressed a letter to the Colonial Secretary asking his attention to three particulars in the proposed bills in which it is thought that some amendment is desirable.

Questions and answers in Parliament on this subject will be found in the Parliamentary column.

December 12, 1912.

TO THE RIGHT HON. LEWIS HARCOURT, M.P., ETC.,  
COLONIAL OFFICE.

SIR,—

The attention of the Committee of this Society has been called to the recent Ordinance for the amendment of the Human Leopard and Alligator Societies' Ordinance and the Special Commission Ordinance, for the Colony and Protectorate of Sierra Leone. While the Committee is fully cognisant of the dangerous and horrible character of these murderous societies and the need for their repression, I am to submit to you certain points in the Ordinances which appear to the Committee open to serious objection, and which we hope will be amended before the measures are passed into law :—

(1) The fact that the provisions of the Ordinances are retrospective and appear to apply to offences committed at any previous time without limit seems to hold out grave possibilities of injustice being done to natives, who may in past years have been members of such societies, but have since come under civilising and Christianising influences, and have entirely re-

\*\*\*

nounced their former savage practices. The whole force and purpose of the measures is, presumably, to stamp out these societies by inflicting heavy punishments on those found guilty of taking part in them; this end will be defeated if those who are known to be now living respectable lives are arrested and punished with the guilty.

(2) The Committee thinks it of great importance to enlist the law-abiding natives on the side of public order, by specially providing that one of the members of the Special Commission Court set up by the Ordinance shall be a native, and expresses the hope that a clause to this effect may be inserted in the measure.

(3) The Committee urges that the privilege of appeal shall not be withheld from persons who are tried and convicted under these Ordinances.

I have, etc.,

TRAVERS BUXTON,

Secretary.

#### SIERRA LEONE AUXILIARY.

THE following account of a recent meeting of the Society's Auxiliary in Sierra Leone from the *Sierra Leone Weekly News* of November 23, will be read with interest:—

“An interesting gathering took place at the Wilberforce Hall on Wednesday last, 20th inst., at 4.30 p.m., when the members of the above Auxiliary held a reception in honour of their Treasurer, C. May, Esq., J.P., who had recently returned from England after an absence of about five months. The President, Councillor E. H. Cummings, J.P., welcomed Mr. May on behalf of the Society, and pointed out the object of the gathering and the pleasure of the members in seeing their Treasurer once more. They were aware during his absence from home of the interviews he had with the Secretaries of the Society, and he, as well as those present, would be pleased to hear a brief account of his visit to England. Mr. May, who was heartily received, gave an interesting account of the conversation which passed between the Secretaries of the parent Society, Mr. Travers Buxton and the Rev. J. H. Harris, and himself, on African affairs, and told of the great interest they are taking in the welfare of subject races generally. They were pleased at the formation of the Auxiliary in our City as well as at Bonthe, and expressed the hope that all will work steadily and devotedly to do the great work that is before them. Mr. May also told of interviews he had with other prominent individuals interested in African matters, and how deeply impressed they were to receive correct information of the people of the country he represented. On the conclusion of Mr. May's address, one of the gentlemen present asked that the speech be published and circulated for the benefit of those who were not privileged to hear it.

Tea was next served and the company after spending an enjoyable time broke up at 6 p.m. The Auxiliary is an infant society in this city and appeals to all who seek the welfare of their country to become members. The Rev. J. T. Roberts as Secretary was the capable organiser of the successful gathering, and to him much praise is due."

Mr. T. F. V. Buxton (the eldest son of our President, Sir T. F. Buxton) is expecting to pay a visit to Sierra Leone, accompanied by Mrs. Buxton, early in next year. We trust that their visit will be the means of increasing the interest felt in the Society's work in West Africa, and strengthen the position of the Local Auxiliaries. Mr. and Mrs. Buxton expect to leave Liverpool on January 26.

### Parliamentary.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

*October 7.*

#### BARBADOS LABOURERS IN PUTUMAYO.

In reply to Mr. KING,

Mr. HARCOURT said: Between September, 1904, and June, 1905, 257 emigrants were recruited in Barbados for various South American countries. In November, 1909, the Colonial Office was informed by the then Governor of Barbados that no emigrants had been recruited for South American ports since June, 1905, and I have no reason to believe that any have been recruited since. The Government of Barbados has ample power under the Colonial law to prevent recruiting, and it has also issued warnings against accepting employment in South America. Information as to the return of some of the 196 men recruited in Barbados for Putumayo will be found in Sir Roger Casement's report, which also deals fully with their treatment by their employers. The report shows that certain individuals elected to stay in South America. I have asked the Governor of Barbados to inform me how many of the 196 men have returned to Barbados, but have not yet received his reply. A complete answer to this question will obviously involve very careful and possibly protracted inquiries by the local authorities, especially as some of the men in question were not natives of the island.

*October 14.*

Mr. EDMUND HARVEY asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, whether he was aware that, when the Barbadian British subjects, recruited for the Peruvian Amazon Company, realised the nature of the work on the Putumayo, they appealed to the British vice-consul at Manaos to secure their release from their contracts; whether this official refused to assist them; whether he reported this incident; and whether this gentleman was still in the service of His Majesty's Government.

Sir E. GREY : I have no information beyond what is stated on page 11 of the Putumayo Blue Book, no report of the incident having been made to this Department. It would in any case in my opinion have been difficult for the British vice consul, an unsalaried official who has since resigned his appointment, to have taken steps to obtain the release of the men in question from their contracts on the strength of rumours which he had no means of verifying.

---

October 8.

#### THE PUTUMAYO ATROCITIES.

Mr. KING asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether he could state what progress had been made during the last two months for securing the inhabitants and traders of the Putumayo district of the Amazon against the cruelties disclosed by Sir R. Casement's report, and whether he had any information from the British Consul at Iquitos about the present state of the natives in the rubber district of the Upper Amazon.

Sir E. GREY : His Majesty's Consul at Iquitos has been sent to the Putumayo district, which he is now visiting in company with his American colleague. No further action can usefully be taken until I have received and carefully considered the report which he will address to me. With regard to the second question, I shall have no information until I receive the report of his Majesty's Consul at Iquitos.

Lord R. CECIL : Is there any ground for hoping that any of those who have been guilty of the atrocities have been executed or punished ?

Sir E. GREY asked for notice of that question.

Mr. MALCOLM asked whether the Select Committee referred to in the last part of the Session would be set up before the report of the Consuls was received.

Sir E. GREY said the two things were not connected so far as he was aware. Perhaps the hon. gentleman would put a question to the Prime Minister on the subject.

---

October 10.

Lord R. CECIL asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether any of those responsible for the atrocities on the Putumayo had been executed ; and, if not, what hopes there were that they would be shortly brought to justice.

Sir E. GREY : The only information that I have is that the Prefect of Loreto has informed the Peruvian Government of the arrest of a man called Adolfo Lopez.

October 24.

Mr. KING asked whether Andres O'Donnell, a former manager in the employ of the Peruvian Amazon Company, had been arrested in Barbados ; and, if so, whether he would be handed over for trial to the Peruvian Government.

Sir E. GREY : He was arrested in Barbados in June last, but released by the Colonial Court on application of writ for *habeas corpus* on the 5th instant. His Majesty's Government have not yet received a full report of the proceedings.

---

November 4.

Sir H. CARLILE asked the Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether he would state the reasons for the failure of the extradition charge against Andres O'Donnell, accused at Barbados of participation in the atrocities committed in the Putumayo district of Peru ; whether any further action was contemplated against him ; whether the Peruvian Government had as yet instituted effective proceedings against any of the accused and what further action, if any, the British Government proposed to take.

Mr. ACLAND : O'Donnell was released on a legal technicality due to the fact that the extradition papers forwarded by the Peruvian Government did not conform to the requirements of Article XII. of the Extradition Treaty with Peru. I am inquiring of the Peruvian Government the reasons for this oversight, and am expressing the hope that they will take steps to obtain O'Donnell's extradition from any country in which he may have sought asylum. As regards the third part of the question, I have reason to believe that the Peruvian Government are persevering in their efforts to capture the escaped criminals ; but I am not aware of the present state of the proceedings against those already arrested, and have telegraphed to his Majesty's Minister at Lima for information on this point. I am not in a position to make any statement in regard to the last part of the question.

Sir H. CARLILE : Is it not a fact that no effective steps have been taken against these criminals ?

Mr. ACLAND : A new Government have recently come into power in Peru, and we have hopes that that will not much longer remain the case.

---

November 5.

Mr. KING asked the Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether he had information concerning the murder of the Colombians Serrano and Gonzalez, the violation and enslavement of their wives, and the massacre of their employes, which took place on the Putumayo about the end of the year 1908 ; and whether any persons were brought to justice for those crimes.

Sir E. GREY : Owing to the lapse of time and the lack of reliable ocular evidence it has not been possible to determine the exact circumstances in which these crimes were committed. Such employés of the company as may have taken part in them and have been in the company's service at the time of Sir R. Casement's first visit to the Putumayo are likely to be among those against whom warrants are out.

*November 19.*

Mr. J. W. WILSON asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether the River Napo comes within the instructions contained in Despatch No. 44 of February 26 last (published in the Putumayo blue book) to Consul Michell ; whether the Peruvian officials in Iquitos have made representations to Mr. Consul Michell which have prevented the instructions contained in that despatch being carried into execution ; and whether the consular visit to that river has been in consequence entirely abandoned.

Sir E. GREY : The reply to the first part of the hon. member's question is in the affirmative.

I have no information that Mr. Michell has been prevented from carrying out instructions to visit the Napo. In a despatch dated June 12 last he stated that he purposed, when practicable, to make a journey up that river. He was, however, instructed on July 23 last to visit the Putumayo as soon as convenient, and his report on that visit is now expected shortly, but it is evident that in consequence of the visit to the Putumayo he has not yet had time to visit the Napo.

*November 28.*

#### IQUITOS (BRITISH CONSUL).

Mr. SWIFT MACNEILL asked whether Mr. Michell, the British Consul at Iquitos, is now on his way to Europe ; whether we have a fully paid British Consul stationed at Iquitos at the present time ; and, if not, where is the nearest Consul to the Putumayo district, from which Iquitos is 1,200 miles distant ?

Sir E. GREY : The answer to the first part is in the affirmative, to the second part in the negative, but the unsalaried Vice-Consul is now in charge of the Consulate.

Mr. SWIFT MACNEILL : Will the right hon. gentleman consider the propriety of appointing a salaried Consul in this district as soon as possible, having regard to the atrocities in Putumayo ?

Sir E. GREY : We have got a salaried Consul who is coming home on leave, and the unsalaried Vice-Consul does his work while he is absent on leave.



Mr. SWIFT MACNEILL : Is this unsalaried Vice-Consul a British subject ?

Sir E. GREY : His name is Brown.

---

*December 5.*

Mr. SWIFT MACNEILL asked whether Mr. Brown, who is acting Vice-Consul (unpaid) at Iquitos, the nearest seat of a British Consulate to the Putumayo, is himself in any way connected with the rubber traffic in the Amazon forest or Putumayo regions, or connected directly or indirectly with the transport of rubber from those regions, having regard to the fact that great efforts were exerted to obtain this position of acting Vice-Consul (unpaid) at Iquitos for the agent of a company which ships the rubber from those rivers to Liverpool ?

Sir E. GREY : Mr. David Brown is the Resident Agent of the Booth Steamship Company at Iquitos. He is Vice-Consul, not Acting Vice-Consul. We were advised that Mr. Brown, who is also in charge of the United States interest, might properly be left in charge during the absence of His Majesty's Consul on leave, and I have no reason to doubt the propriety of this decision. So far as I am aware, no efforts were made to secure the appointment of Vice-Consul for Mr. Brown.

Mr. SWIFT MACNEILL : Is this Mr. Brown agent of this Shipping Company which transferred rubber from those regions to England ?

Sir E. GREY : He is the agent of the Booth Steamship Company. I do not know more about him.

Mr. SWIFT MACNEILL : Will the right hon. gentleman inquire whether the Booth Steamship Company is the company that transfers the rubber from Putumayo where all these horrors and outrages occurred to England ?

Sir E. GREY : I had to decide whether Mr. Brown is a fit person to act temporarily for the British Consul while he is away. I took the best advice I could on that subject, and I was informed he was a fit person, and I see no reason to reconsider the appointment.

---

*December 11.*

#### PERUVIAN AMAZON RUBBER COMPANY.

Mr. CARR-GOMM asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether the Peruvian Amazon Rubber Company is now obtaining an increased quantity of rubber from the Putumayo, in spite of the fact that the Indian population has been reduced by many thousands ; if so, whether this rubber is being conveyed by British bottoms to Europe by a steamship company of which the present British Vice-Consul at Iquitos is the agent ; and, if so, whether he will take some action to put a stop to this state of affairs ?

The UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Mr. Acland) : The figures of the amount of rubber exported during the first eight months of the year show an increase on the figures for last year, but are far below the figures for 1906 and 1907 ; the rubber is conveyed to Europe by vessels of the Booth Steamship Company, of which, as stated last Thursday, Mr. Brown is the resident agent. Endeavours are being made to secure proper treatment for the Indians employed in the collection of rubber, and as I have hopes of their success I should not consider myself justified in trying to interfere with the transport trade, whether carried on by a British company or otherwise.

Mr. SWIFT MACNEILL : Does not the hon. gentleman see that this gentleman now acting as the representative of Great Britain is also the representative of the rubber company ? Will he consider the propriety of appointing an independent gentleman to act ?

Mr. ACLAND : We have got an independent paid officer there, but he happens to be absent on leave at the moment, and Mr. Brown is taking his place during his temporary absence. He was recommended as the best man for the post.

Mr. SWIFT MACNEILL : Does not the hon. gentleman see that Mr. Brown is in an antagonistic position as agent of the rubber company ?

Mr. ACLAND : I cannot admit that a British subject is unable to fulfil his duties perfectly honestly even although he may be an agent of a rubber company.

Mr. T. E. HARVEY : Would it not be possible, in view of the very grave happenings in Putumayo, to send out a temporary Vice-Consul ?

Mr. ACLAND : I will convey that suggestion to the right quarter. But no suggestion has been made that Mr. Brown is not carrying out the duties in a perfectly satisfactory manner.

Mr. CARR-GOMM : How long will the Vice-Consul be absent ?

Mr. ACLAND : I cannot say at the moment, but I will find out.

Mr. CARR-GOMM also asked the Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether His Majesty's Government has any information as to the alleged atrocities committed this year in the districts of Ultimo Retiro, on the Putumayo ; whether His Majesty's Government has any information that 122 bodies of murdered men, women and children were seen in one district in March last ; and, if this be so, whether he will communicate with the Peruvian Government in this matter ?

Mr. ACLAND : The only mention that I have seen of this story is in a letter addressed by the Colombian Consul-General at Manaos to His Majesty's and the United States Consuls at Iquitos. In the absence of confirmation



and of further details, I should not be justified in addressing the Peruvian Government.

Mr. EDMUND HARVEY asked whether any, and, if so, how many, of the agents of the Peruvian Amazon Company have been arrested and punished ?

Mr. ACLAND : I have no information beyond that given in the Blue Book, and in reply to the hon. member for Hitchin on October 10 last.

Lord ROBERT CECIL : Is there no further information of any one having been arrested or punished ?

Mr. ACLAND : That is so.

Mr. SWIFT MACNEILL : And in point of fact none of these men have been arrested ?

Mr. ACLAND : We have not any information on the matter.

---

December 16.

#### THE PUTUMAYO INDIANS.

Mr. JOYNSON-HICKS asked the Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether His Majesty's Government had any official information to the effect that Peruvian officials connived at and in some cases actually took part in the slave traffic between the Putumayo and Iquitos.

Mr. ACLAND, who replied, said : His Majesty's Minister in Lima has reported that accusations have been brought in a Peruvian journal against the house of Arana of traffic in peons with Brazil, with the connivance of the late Peruvian Consul-General at Manaos. These accusations have been denied. His Majesty's Minister has also reported that two Government launches have been posted at strategic points on the river frontier between Peru and Brazil to prevent the traffic in Peruvian labourers.

Mr. JOYNSON-HICKS asked whether the Government had any consular representatives at Manaos ; if so, whether inquiry would be made whether some time in August or September of this year the steamer *Manaos* brought down the Putumayo for sale eight boys and four girls who were re-embarked at the mouth of the Yavari river on the launch *Hamburg* for sale at Iquitos.

Mr. ACLAND : His Majesty's Government are represented by an unsalaried Vice-Consul at Manaos, who is under the superintendence of His Majesty's Consul at Para. The incident referred to by the hon. member has been mentioned in a letter from the Colombian Consul-General at Manaos to the British and United States Consuls at Iquitos. It is, however, there stated that the Indians were shipped on board the *Manuos* at San Antonio at the mouth of the river Ica, which is many hundreds of miles

distant from Manaos, and were afterwards transhipped to the *Hamburg* at the mouth of the river Javery for Iquitos. I will inquire whether there is any confirmation of this information.

---

*December 17.*

Mr. T. E. HARVEY asked the Secretary for Foreign Affairs how many of the agents of the Peruvian Amazon Company reported by Sir Roger Casement as being guilty of grave crimes were still in the employ of the Peruvian Amazon Company on the Putumayo.

Sir E. GREY : His Majesty's Consul at Iquitos, who has lately returned from visiting the Putumayo, reports that it is stated there that the whole of the staff of the company who were accused of crimes have been changed.

Mr. MALCOLM asked whether His Majesty's Government was in possession of information which went to show that Miguel Loayza was still in control of the El Encanto agency of the Peruvian Amazon Company ; whether this was the same man who, in company with Bartolome Zumaeta, brother-in-law of the Aranas, organised the raid at La Reserva in 1908, which resulted in the death of many Colombians and Indians ; and, if so, whether His Majesty's Government would urge the Peruvian Government to secure the arrest of this man without delay.

Sir E. GREY : Señor Loayza is stated by Sir R. Casement to have taken part in the organisation of the raid mentioned in the second part of the hon. member's question, but as His Majesty's Consul at Iquitos, who has just returned from the Putumayo, reports that Señor Loayza has introduced reforms into his section which have had the most satisfactory results and that great credit is due to him on this account, there is no ground at present on which His Majesty's Government could make representations.

---

*November 14.*

#### PUTUMAYO MISSIONS.

Sir HILDRED CARLILE asked whether any answers have been received from the Peruvian Government indicating that facilities will be accorded to either or both of the special missions which are leaving for the Putumayo ?

Sir E. GREY : I hear the Peruvian Government have stated that they will give the Franciscan mission their decided support, and that all necessary Customs facilities at Iquitos will be granted as well as the Government launch for the mission's journey to the Putumayo.

Sir H. CARLILE : Will the second expedition also have facilities ?

Sir E. GREY : Perhaps the hon. gentleman will give me notice of that question.

Sir H. CARLILE : It is in the question.

*November 14.*

## SLAVE TRADE IN PERU.

Mr. HIGHAM asked whether the Foreign Secretary is aware that at Lares, in the province of Calca, in the vicinity of Cuzco, an active slave trade is in existence ; if so, whether he will call the attention of the Peruvian Government to this violation of the Anglo-Peruvian Anti-slavery Treaty ?

Sir E. GREY : I have no information on this subject.

Mr. HIGHAM : Will it not be possible for the right hon. gentleman to ask the Consul for information ?

Sir E. GREY : If the hon. gentleman has information which leads him to suppose that British subjects are involved I shall be glad if he will let me have it. Otherwise I have nothing on which to inquire.

---

*December 3.*

Mr. MALCOLM asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, whether the Anglo-Peruvian Slavery Treaty is still in force ; whether he was aware that charges have been made by the Società Pro-Indigena in Peru concerning the existence of the slave trade in the vicinity of Cuzco ; whether he is further aware that Senor Francesco Mostajo, agent of the above-named society at Arequipa, has recently informed the Peruvian Government that in another district in Peru they are confronted with an attack upon humanity as nameless as that of the Putumayo ; and whether he will cause inquiries to be made to ascertain if British subjects are involved in this charge ?

Sir EDWARD GREY : The instrument to which the hon. member refers is presumably the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation of 1850, Article XV. of which deals with the slave trade, and which is still in force. Charges have been made from time to time by the Pro-Indigena Society of cruelty to Indians in the interior of Peru, but I have no information respecting their occurrence at a place of the name of Cuzco or of Senor Mostajo's charges. As I stated on the 14th instant, in reply to a question from the hon. member for Sowerby, if the hon. member will furnish me with more definite information, I will inquire whether British companies are involved. I cannot promise to do more than that.

Mr. MALCOLM : Suppose that the charges were proved and that this clause in the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation is in effective operation, would the right hon. gentleman be able to take steps to bring the slavery to an end in these places ?

Sir E. GREY made a reply which was inaudible in the reporters' gallery.

*November 26.*

## BRITISH COMPANIES IN PERU (NATIVE LABOUR).

Sir CLEMENT HILL asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he has received any information suggesting that abuses have arisen out of the employment of aborigines under the control of British companies in other districts than those under the management of the Peruvian Amazon Company; and, if so, what steps are being taken?

The SECRETARY OF STATE for the COLONIES (Mr. HARCOURT): Occasional complaints are received from coloured and other persons employed in foreign territory, but I have no reason whatever to suppose that any state of affairs corresponding to that revealed by Sir Roger Casement's report exists in the case of any British company employing labour from British Colonies and Protectorates in foreign territory.

---

*October 16.*

## N. NIGERIA (PUBLIC WHIPPING).

Mr. KING asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether his attention has been called to the recent public whipping of two Government clerks, named Hall and Taylor, at Zaria, in Northern Nigeria; whether the offence for which they were punished was playing football in the market place; whether they were stripped naked before being publicly whipped; and whether the Resident will be instructed to prevent such whippings in future.

The SECRETARY OF STATE for the COLONIES: I have called for and received a report on the circumstances referred to. The two African native clerks mentioned persisted, after due warning by the police, in kicking a football about on a public road and in the market square, causing general annoyance and damage to goods exposed for sale. The offence was one against the properly constituted native authority of the town, and was dealt with by the native court with the consent of the Resident and in accordance with the law administered by such courts. I do not propose to communicate further with the Governor on the subject.

---

*November 7.*

In reply to a further question by Mr. KING, Mr. HARCOURT replied:—“I have already informed my honourable friend, on October 16, that the offence for which these native African clerks were tried and punished took place in a public road and in a market square of the town, and that they were tried in the court which has jurisdiction in such cases. I am informed that the Resident did not order the clerks to salute him by prostrating themselves, or strike them with his cane.”

*October 24.*

## THE NORTHERN NIGERIA EXPEDITION.

Mr. E. HARVEY asked the number of natives killed by the recent expedition in Northern Nigeria arising out of the murder of Mr. Campbell : and whether any judicial inquiry preceded the expedition.

Mr. HARCOURT : The number of casualties among the natives, according to a report recently received, is estimated at 179. I may add that certain aspects of the matter have appeared to me to require further explanation, and I am again communicating with the Governor on the subject.

Mr. HARVEY : May I take it from the answer that the right hon. gentleman feels an expedition involving the loss of 179 lives is not the best way of maintaining British justice in cases of this kind ?

Mr. HARCOURT : I must not be taken as admitting that at the moment, but I am making further inquiries.

EARL WINTERTON : Is the right hon. gentleman aware that this was described as a cold-blooded murder, and was not Mr. Campbell universally liked and respected ?

Mr. HARCOURT : I am fully aware of that.

Mr. WEDGWOOD : Were not the natives frightened by the number of flags stuck all about the country by prospectors, and was not that one of the causes of the natives rising ?

---

*October 29.*

## SLAVERY IN SAN THOMÉ.

Mr. HOARE asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether His Majesty's Government had official information from a Portuguese source to the effect that many of the slaves liberated from the Portuguese dependencies of San Thomé and Principe were frequently put ashore on the mainland, where they were left to starve ; and that in the early part of this year 50 slaves died in the outskirts of Benguela from neglect and starvation.

Sir E. GREY : My information with regard to labourers repatriated on the expiration of their contracts, is that the Governor-General of Angola is now doing all in his power to provide for them and find them work.

He recently informed the Acting British Consul at Loanda, who sees no reason to doubt the accuracy of the information, that of the hundreds of people repatriated to Benguela in the first six months of this year only seventeen died. They received medical attendance and their death was in most cases due to the change of climate, although in a few cases it may have been due to general weakness as a result of lack of food.

*November 28.*

## SLAVE TRAFFIC (ANGOLA).

Mr. HOARE asked what was the number of Europeans who, by the inquiry, were found guilty of acts of slave traffic in the Portuguese Colony of Angola, to which reference is made in the written communication of Senhor Vasconcellos to Sir Arthur Hardinge on October 23 of last year ?

Sir E. GREY : The number tried was eleven. As the hon. member will see from Mr. Drummond-Hay's dispatch of June 17, 1911, which is No. 40 in the recent White Book, these persons were, as a matter of fact, acquitted of the charge of slave dealing, and Senhor Vasconcellos' statement appears to that extent to have been inaccurate.

## GULF OF GUINEA (APPOINTMENT OF CONSUL).

Mr. EDMUND HARVEY asked whether, in view of labour conditions on the Islands in the Gulf of Guinea, for which this country has treaty and other responsibilities, His Majesty's Government will favourably consider the appointment of a fully-paid Consul for those districts ?

Sir E. GREY : Independently of the question whether the labour conditions on the Islands in the Gulf of Guinea involve treaty responsibilities on the part of this country, His Majesty's Government have already decided to appoint a salaried Consular officer for these Islands.

Mr. EDMUND HARVEY : In which of the two Islands does this gentleman live ? May I also thank the right hon. gentleman for the announcement he has made.

Sir E. GREY : I cannot give that detail.

---

*October 30.*

## GOLD COAST MEDICAL SERVICE.

Mr. MACCALLUM SCOTT asked whether Mr. Easmon, M.B., B.S. (London), M.R.C.S. (England), L.R.C.P. (London), and until recently house surgeon to the Huntingdon County Hospital, has recently applied for an appointment in the Gold Coast medical service ; and, if so, whether this gentleman's application has been rejected because he is a person of native African descent ?

Mr. HARCOURT : Dr. Easmon recently applied for an appointment in the West African Medical Staff. My hon. friend is correctly informed as to the reason for his not being selected, as only candidates of European parentage are eligible under the Regulations.

Mr. MACCALLUM SCOTT asked whether Great Britain alone amongst



the West African colonising Powers refuses to accept fully qualified medical men in Government service on the ground of colour ?

Mr. HARCOURT : I am not aware on what grounds my hon. friend suggests that other West African colonising Powers do not refuse to appoint medical men of African descent ; but he is under a misapprehension with regard to the British Colonial Administration in West Africa, two of which do employ medical men who are natives of the Coast.

Mr. MACCALLUM SCOTT : If that is so, is there any reason why it should be so in the Gold Coast ?

Mr. HARCOURT : I think there are special circumstances which apply there.

---

*November 20.*

CALABAR (NATIVE DOCTORS).

Mr. JOWETT asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether in Calabar there are hospitals for the exclusive use of natives and non-natives respectively ; and whether native doctors, no matter how high their qualifications, are disqualified by reason of their colour from ministering to the sick in either of these institutions, both of which are maintained to a considerable extent by revenue drawn from the natives themselves ?

Mr. HARCOURT : There is a native and a European hospital at Calabar. They are administered by Government medical officers, but I cannot say whether any of the officers in charge at present are natives. The question of allowing private practitioners to take charge of their patients after admission to hospital is under consideration.

---

*December 4.*

Mr. EDMUND HARVEY asked what public appointments in the Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, and Lagos are open to coloured medical men of African descent ?

Colonel SEELY : Three native medical officers are employed by the Government of Sierra Leone, and four by the Government of Southern Nigeria. None are employed in the Gold Coast.

---

*November 20.*

BAI SHERBORO.

Mr. EDMUND HARVEY asked the Secretary for the Colonies whether he had official information to the effect that no medical attendance whatever was vouchsafed to the blind exiled chief, Bai Sherboro, in spite of the fact that the medical authorities of the Gold Coast were informed of the serious

illness of this exile, and that medical men in Government service lived less than half a mile from the hut to which the old chieftain was exiled ?

Mr. JOWETT also asked whether Bai Sherboro had died in exile ; if so, whether at any time during the period of his exile he was allowed a trial ; and whether, as asserted by Bai Sherboro, from the date of his arrest he had never been informed of the cause of his arrest and exile ?

Mr. HARCOURT : I have no information concerning the fact or the circumstances of the death of Bai Sherboro, but I will make inquiries. He was not brought to trial during his exile ; but I cannot doubt that he was well aware of the reason of his exile, which was complicity in the rebellion of 1898, in the course of which so many persons of both sexes were murdered in circumstances of unspeakable atrocity. His share in this rebellion was admitted even by his children and relatives when petitioning for his release. I may add that a year or two ago I carefully considered whether, in view of his age and infirmity, it was possible to allow Bai Sherboro to return to Sierra Leone, but I was satisfied that such a step would be dangerous to the peace and good government of the Colony and Protectorate.

Mr. E. HARVEY : Will the right hon. Gentleman communicate the result of this inquiry to my hon. friend ?

Mr. HARCOURT : Certainly.

---

#### HUMAN LEOPARD AND ALLIGATOR SOCIETIES.

*December 4.*

Mr. SILVESTER HORNE asked the Secretary for the Colonies whether His Majesty's Government intends taking measures to secure the abolition of the practices of the Human Leopard and Alligator Societies in Sierra Leone ; and whether any number of arrests have already been made of persons alleged to be guilty of crimes in connection with these secret societies ?

Colonel SEELY : Yes, Sir, the law dealing with such societies has been strengthened, and an Ordinance has been passed providing for the trial of offenders by a special commission. The Secretary of State understands that over 200 persons have already been arrested and will be brought to trial in due course.

Mr. EDMUND HARVEY asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether the Human Leopard and Alligator Ordinance of the Colony of Sierra Leone has recently been amended ; whether it now contains a retrospective Clause which may be enforced without limit in point of time ; and whether, if this is so, he will consider advising the Governor of Sierra Leone to secure some modification in this respect ?



Colonel SEELY : Yes, Sir, the Sierra Leone Ordinance, to which I presume my hon. friend refers, following the precedent of the Ordinance of 1909, does contain retrospective provisions, and in view of the gravity and the number of the crimes with which the Ordinance deals the Secretary of State considers this somewhat exceptional procedure necessary and right.

Mr EDMUND HARVEY : Will the right hon. Gentleman represent to his colleague the possibility of very grave injustice in the case of natives who committed these offences many years ago, but who, through the influence of missionaries and others, have led entirely different lives since ?

Colonel SEELY : I will certainly convey that representation to my right hon. friend. One cannot exaggerate the gravity of the crimes referred to.

### The Native in Parliament.

*By Our Parliamentary Correspondent.*

I MUST congratulate the Society on the great success which has attended its efforts through the Parliamentary Committee. If every philanthropic body could command the same measure of general interest in its propaganda that the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society now controls, its work would be greatly helped. This interest is no doubt due to some extent to the successful and tactful lobbying of the Society's officials, but the chief factor is the sincerity of purpose and deep humanitarian sympathy of the Chairman, Mr. J. W. Wilson, and the Hon. Secretaries, Mr. T. E. Harvey and Mr. Jack Lyttelton. The House of Commons is beyond question realising as it never did before, the fact of its coloured wards in different parts of the world. Scarcely a day passes now without some question to the Government affecting native races in one part or another of the globe, and the most gratifying feature is that these questions frequently spring from unexpected quarters of the House, thus heralding to the Foreign and Colonial Secretaries the fact that the Society has secured a further accession to its strength.

### PORTUGUESE SLAVERY—A SUCCESS.

During the last two months Mr. Hoare from the Opposition, and Mr. Harvey from the Government side of the House, have watched every opportunity for pressing upon the Government the strong feeling which exists upon Portuguese Slavery and British Responsibility, and on November 28 their efforts were rewarded by Sir Edward Grey informing Mr. Harvey that in future Great Britain will possess a fully paid Consul for the Islands of San Thomé, Principe and Fernando Po. The result of this appointment will be that in future we may expect to receive more frequent information as to the movement of slaves and labourers than has hitherto been possible.



THE RIGHT HON. J. W. WILSON, M.P.,  
Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee of the Society.

#### PERUVIAN ATROCITIES.

Since the beginning of October there has been a steady flow of questions upon the terrible condition of affairs in Peru. Mr. Ian Malcolm, whose former experience of Foreign Affairs gives him an unique experience and position amongst the Opposition, has rendered continued and whole-hearted assistance to the suffering people on the Putumayo, and I have some reason to think that the Member for Croydon intends putting his knowledge and experience to some very practical purpose later on, which will go a long way towards securing an abolition of the slave traffic in Peru.

To Mr. Swift MacNeill the House is indebted for exposing an extraordinary situation upon the Putumayo question. It seems that the British Government is represented at Iquitos by only one Consul and that this official is now on furlough. Through persistent and cleverly-worded questions and supplementals, Mr. MacNeill drew from the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs the admission that the temporary Consul is the agent responsible for shipping the rubber from these regions to England! A great deal more will be heard about this appointment.

On December 11, the House was painfully surprised by a series of questions put by Mr. Harvey and Mr. Carr-Gomm, which clearly demonstrated that

new and deplorable reports had been received from the Putumayo. The impression created was deepened when it became apparent that behind these questions was a mass of information which had already been received by the Foreign Office.

#### BRITISH COLONIAL ADMINISTRATION.

The government of our own colonies has been brought prominently to the fore in the House during the last few weeks. Mr. Harcourt did not know whether the old exile, Bai Sherboro, had died, but I fear Mr. Harvey and Mr. Jowett are only too correctly informed and that the old man has passed away, although it is to be hoped that the allegation that he received no medical attendance is untrue.

#### COLOURED MEDICAL MEN.

With increasing insistence which gives promise of debate on the Colonial Office Vote, the scandal of our colonial medical service has been pressed to the front. Mr. Jowett and Mr. MacCallum Scott have been drawing information from the Colonial Secretary which, when pieced together later on, will constitute a strong case for the admission to the Colonial medical service of a fair proportion of coloured medical men. It is little short of a grave scandal that men other than those of a pure European descent are refused entrance to the service in certain of our colonies. Very few will question the assertion that many of our merchants and administrators have left offspring, scattered all over the Crown colonies; are these children, who did not ask to be brought into their unfortunate position, to be denied an education and opportunity of livelihood by the very circles which have brought them into existence? Again, as all taxation, in the ultimate resort, comes from the natives, are their children, in possession of European qualifications, to be denied the opportunity of ministering under the Government to the sick and afflicted of their own race? Let those who hold such unjust theories beware of an alert House of Commons, the members of which are certainly not prepared to act as passive onlookers whilst these deeds are practised. I am one of those who greatly admire the work of our colonial officials, but I fear they do not realise the new spirit which is springing up in the House, and in all friendliness I would urge our men not to make the fatal mistake of believing that native questions are being watched only by one or two of the more irresponsible members—the ear of the House is becoming increasingly sensitive to the plea of native races for justice.

---

## Review.

### DAWN IN DARKEST AFRICA.\*

*By John H. Harris.*

THOSE who take an interest in the welfare of the native races and know something of Mr. Harris' devoted work both in Africa and at home will turn with keen expectancy to this volume, the fruit of the author's journey last year in West Central Africa on behalf of the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society—and they will not be disappointed. For it is not the work of a mere traveller, or a superficial observer; it is the product of many years' intimate experience of Africa, of one who has lived among the natives and loves them, and who has given constant thought and study to the problems which Africa presents. Perhaps the most striking features of the book are its freedom from prejudice and its courage. The questions with which Mr. Harris deals are of a kind which have long baffled the administrator, colonist, philanthropist and missionary, but he faces them fairly and squarely and endeavours to get at the truth at all costs. For example, we have but to turn to Mr. Harris' treatment of such questions as Domestic Slavery, Commercial Methods, Contract Labour, Native Education, Land, Missions and Polygamy; we shall find much to think about and to learn, and some things perhaps that may surprise us, but we always feel that the author is a man who knows what he is writing about and is not afraid to express frankly the convictions which he has reached. The book is indeed a mine of information, brought up to date on subjects in which the Society is very closely interested and concerned. Mr. Harris reminds us that in Africa forced labour, like contract labour, rests very largely upon domestic slavery, and it is difficult sometimes to distinguish between them; that there is one and only one kind of forced labour which can be tolerated.

"The broad line of division," he writes, "is unquestionably between genuine works of public utility on the one hand, and profit-bearing works on the other."

In the former case, if natives are permitted to commute their labour by a money payment little exception can be taken to the demand. This seems a clear and reasonable distinction, but obviously the boundary line is one which is liable to be easily overstepped; the Belgian Congo Administration have been the worst offenders. Domestic slavery is, in Mr. Harris' view, "slavery pure and simple." This has always been, in effect, the opinion of the Anti-Slavery Society, and it is therefore to be deplored that "the broad lines of domestic slavery are common throughout West Africa." The House Rule Ordinance of Southern Nigeria, under which escaping slaves may be punished and returned to their masters by

---

\* Smith, Elder & Co.

law in a British colony, is an example ; Mr. Harris tells us, however, that the British Government alone among the Powers really dislikes the system.

In regard to the common practice of labour under contract or indenture, Mr. Harris rightly urges the increasing need that Governments should lay down the broad lines on which they will allow it, it being so difficult to preserve from the taint of slavery. Even in India, where contract labour is so carefully controlled, abuses occur in connection with recruiting, the recruiters being admittedly "very low class men."

Mr. Harris gives a sad account of race prejudice in Africa, which he considers is rapidly increasing in area and intensity. One notable and, in our opinion, indefensible example of this is seen in the exclusion of coloured doctors, however well qualified, from British Government service on the West Coast. This is a question to which the Society is now giving attention. Mr. Harris assures us there are many white men on the Coast who prefer native doctors to whites because of their experience ; as he pointedly remarks :—

"When death's angel looks in at the window, which is pretty often in West Africa, race prejudice shamefacedly slinks out through the nearest doorway."

An interesting chapter is that dealing with the attitude of the different European Governments to Commerce, in which the author highly commends the methods of Germany and expresses regret that their treatment of natives is less enlightened. France and Belgium form a striking contrast, and the "caste" attitude of the British official towards the trader is vigorously criticised. The great change which is taking place in the character and scale of commerce in Africa is emphasised.

"The old-time merchant is giving place to the highly organised syndicate, which possesses neither heart nor conscience, and is generally strong enough in influence at home and power abroad to menace any administration, and if necessary, threaten the various Governments in two, three or even more countries at one time."

Further :—

"The attitude of administrators is no longer the benevolent tutelage of native races. There is an increasing autocracy in most colonies ; the martial spirit with its harsh regulations and rigorous discipline, is permeating every department of affairs. This spirit brooks no opposition, knows no sympathy, and sometimes even forgets justice. It blows hot or cold, where and when it listeth, but it tends always towards menacing native peace and progress."

These are serious statements, but we believe them to be true. The problem of slavery and of aborigines' protection, in other words, has changed its form, and in some ways the fight is more difficult, and more necessary than ever before.

We have thus far touched mainly on general questions and those which affect all parts of Africa, and we may note the wisdom and moderation of Mr. Harris' generalisations and how careful he is in pronouncing judgment. But the Leopoldian régime was, in degree, distinct from anything else in West Africa, and of the demoralisation which through it fell upon the Congo Mr. Harris writes in impressive terms :—

"Europe was staggered at the Leopoldian atrocities, and they were terrible indeed, but what we, who were behind the scenes, felt most keenly was the fact that the real catastrophe in the Congo was desolation and murder in the larger sense. The invasion of family life, the ruthless destruction of every social barrier, the shattering of every tribal law, the introduction of criminal practices which struck the chiefs of the people dumb with horror—in a word, a veritable avalanche of filth and immorality overwhelmed the Congo tribes."

Many will ask what are the author's views of the present position and future prospects of the Congo territory? His answer is carefully thought out in the chapter which he has devoted to the subject. The population of this vast district, eight times the size of the United Kingdom, has fallen since Stanley's time from 40,000,000 to under 8,000,000. The resources are exhausted, and the natives everywhere distrust the Administration; failure of the rubber cultivation is complete. Mr. Harris thinks there would be some hope of recuperation if the authorities would give up rubber altogether and go in for cocoa and palm oil—provided that cheap transport and sound statesmanship were forthcoming, of which there is not much prospect. The great feature of the situation is that Belgium has never been prepared to make the large grants without which the Congo cannot be made to succeed. Still greater, in Mr. Harris' view, is the difficulty of finding the right men. At present the old Congo officials are retained in the service to-day, and their juniors are following their methods. These are some of the reasons which Mr. Harris gives for his belief that the Congo is a responsibility too heavy for Belgium to bear, and that she would be well advised to transfer her upper regions to another Power and be content with a far less extensive territory.

On the slavery in Portuguese territory Mr. Harris feels very deeply and has written much. His chapter on this subject is forcible and of great interest, but we need not here refer to it further than to remark on the striking feature that in Portuguese West Africa there is "a pleasing absence" of the race prejudice which is increasing in other parts of the continent, and that but for the foul blot of slavery the natives of other African colonies might even envy those in Portuguese Africa. Mr. Harris confesses to a certain tenderness for the Portuguese character, for, after emphasising his "total incapacity of observing the most sacred promises," he writes :—

"The Portuguese is very like the African; you despair of curing him





COCOA CARRYING, BELGIAN CONGO.

*By kind permission of Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co.*

of his weaknesses—which are, after all, seldom intentionally vicious—and yet you love him, because his kindly nature compels you.”

In striking contrast to the slave system of cocoa production in Angola and the Portuguese islands is the free cocoa growing industry of the Gold Coast which Mr. Harris describes fully and which he shows to be an outstanding example of native African enterprise.

Mr. Harris dwells on the economic value of the life of every single native, a fact which has too often been lamentably forgotten by all the Powers—for example, take the loss of life by violence in Belgian and French Congo and in German West Africa—and all in the name of “civilisation”!

“It is a haunting thought that since the ‘85’ scramble for Africa, the civilised Powers who rearranged the map of the African continent, ostensibly in the interests and for the well-being of the natives, have passively allowed the premature destruction of not less than ten millions of people. Now these Powers complain bitterly that they are short of labour and jump at any expedient which presents itself to obtain labour for their hustling developments.”

It is difficult to choose quotations from a book like this where there is so much that could be aptly quoted on the subjects with which it deals. We feel sure that the book will be widely read, and studied with profit, by all who are interested in African problems. It is enriched by a number of excellent and original photographs of native life and customs, and of characteristic West African scenery, which are due to Mrs. Harris’ skill with the camera.

We have thus far touched mainly on general questions and those which affect all parts of Africa, and we may note the wisdom and moderation of Mr. Harris' generalisations and how careful he is in pronouncing judgment. But the Leopoldian régime was, in degree, distinct from anything else in West Africa, and of the demoralisation which through it fell upon the Congo Mr. Harris writes in impressive terms :—

"Europe was staggered at the Leopoldian atrocities, and they were terrible indeed, but what we, who were behind the scenes, felt most keenly was the fact that the real catastrophe in the Congo was desolation and murder in the larger sense. The invasion of family life, the ruthless destruction of every social barrier, the shattering of every tribal law, the introduction of criminal practices which struck the chiefs of the people dumb with horror—in a word, a veritable avalanche of filth and immorality overwhelmed the Congo tribes."

Many will ask what are the author's views of the present position and future prospects of the Congo territory? His answer is carefully thought out in the chapter which he has devoted to the subject. The population of this vast district, eight times the size of the United Kingdom, has fallen since Stanley's time from 40,000,000 to under 8,000,000. The resources are exhausted, and the natives everywhere distrust the Administration; failure of the rubber cultivation is complete. Mr. Harris thinks there would be some hope of recuperation if the authorities would give up rubber altogether and go in for cocoa and palm oil—provided that cheap transport and sound statesmanship were forthcoming, of which there is not much prospect. The great feature of the situation is that Belgium has never been prepared to make the large grants without which the Congo cannot be made to succeed. Still greater, in Mr. Harris' view, is the difficulty of finding the right men. At present the old Congo officials are retained in the service to-day, and their juniors are following their methods. These are some of the reasons which Mr. Harris gives for his belief that the Congo is a responsibility too heavy for Belgium to bear, and that she would be well advised to transfer her upper regions to another Power and be content with a far less extensive territory.

On the slavery in Portuguese territory Mr. Harris feels very deeply and has written much. His chapter on this subject is forcible and of great interest, but we need not here refer to it further than to remark on the striking feature that in Portuguese West Africa there is "a pleasing absence" of the race prejudice which is increasing in other parts of the continent, and that but for the foul blot of slavery the natives of other African colonies might even envy those in Portuguese Africa. Mr. Harris confesses to a certain tenderness for the Portuguese character, for, after emphasising his "total incapacity of observing the most sacred promises," he writes :—

"The Portuguese is very like the African; you despair of curing him



COCOA CARRYING, BELGIAN CONGO.

*By kind permission of Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co.*

of his weaknesses—which are, after all, seldom intentionally vicious—and yet you love him, because his kindly nature compels you.”

In striking contrast to the slave system of cocoa production in Angola and the Portuguese islands is the free cocoa growing industry of the Gold Coast which Mr. Harris describes fully and which he shows to be an outstanding example of native African enterprise.

Mr. Harris dwells on the economic value of the life of every single native, a fact which has too often been lamentably forgotten by all the Powers—for example, take the loss of life by violence in Belgian and French Congo and in German West Africa—and all in the name of “civilisation”!

“It is a haunting thought that since the ‘85’ scramble for Africa, the civilised Powers who rearranged the map of the African continent, ostensibly in the interests and for the well-being of the natives, have passively allowed the premature destruction of not less than ten millions of people. Now these Powers complain bitterly that they are short of labour and jump at any expedient which presents itself to obtain labour for their hustling developments.”

It is difficult to choose quotations from a book like this where there is so much that could be aptly quoted on the subjects with which it deals. We feel sure that the book will be widely read, and studied with profit, by all who are interested in African problems. It is enriched by a number of excellent and original photographs of native life and customs, and of characteristic West African scenery, which are due to Mrs. Harris’ skill with the camera.



CARRYING RUBBER VINES TO VILLAGE.

*By kind permission of Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co.*

Mr. Harris dedicates the volume to his wife, and it is no secret that he owes much to her judgment and zealous co-operation in his work.

Lord Cromer has contributed a long and weighty introduction to the book, which will be read with great interest, giving, as it does, his vigorous commendation and support to Mr. Harris' general position and the spirit in which he has written.

Lord Cromer writes:—

" Mr. Harris has acquired a firm grasp of the main principles which should guide Europeans who are called upon to rule over a backward and primitive society, and of the fact that prolonged neglect of those principles must sooner or later lead to failure or even disaster. He writes as a fair-minded and thoroughly well-informed observer. . . . He has thus produced a book in which the ordinary reader cannot fail to be interested if it be only by reason of the vivid and picturesque account it gives of African life and travel, and in which those who have paid special attention to African administration will find many useful indications of the directions in which their efforts towards reform may best be applied. Whatever may be thought of some of Mr. Harris' suggestions, it cannot but be an advantage, more especially now that attention is being more and more drawn to African affairs, that the Government, Parliament and the general public should learn what one so eminently qualified as Mr. Harris to instruct them in the facts of the case has to say on the subject."

## Coloured Medical Men and Government Service.

THERE is considerable evidence that the present policy of the British Colonial authorities is tending towards making medical appointments under the British Government in West Africa the exclusive preserve of white men. In the three British Colonies of West Africa, Sierra Leone (Colony and Protectorate), the Gold Coast Colony and the Nigerias, the service requires over 150 medical men, and yet not more than seven coloured men remain in the service. It must be remembered that, with the exception of Northern Nigeria, the maintenance of the well-paid (but not overpaid) medical service falls in the ultimate resort upon the natives, and it is assuredly only the minimum of justice that the natives who at heavy cost and considerable self-denial have secured their medical degrees, should hold a reasonable proportion of medical positions for which they are fitted by European qualifications.

What is the bar which is thrown across the path of coloured medical men? In the White Paper (Cd. 4720) issued in July, 1909, the Departmental Committee composed, of course, exclusively of white men, states :—

" The Committee are strongly of opinion that it is in general inadvisable to employ natives of West Africa as medical officers in the Government service. They regard it as the duty of the British Governments in West Africa to provide the best medical assistance in their power for their European employés, especially when stationed in the bush or at out-stations; and they do not believe either that in professional capabilities West African doctors are on a par, except in very rare instances, with European doctors, or that they possess the confidence of European patients on the Coast."

It is of course strictly accurate to say that, in general, the white patients have more confidence in their own white doctors than in native practitioners, and their wishes should be considered, but there is another side to the picture which neither the Committee nor the Colonial Office seems at present to realize—the native patients. Is it not equally true that native patients have more confidence in their own practitioners, whose language and habits they more completely understand, than in the ministrations of the white practitioners? If the British Colonial authorities are going to rest their refusal to admit coloured men into the service upon the ground that white patients prefer white doctors, then they must in equity create a coloured medical service to treat native patients.

The question of qualifications naturally arises. Given good character and equal medical qualifications, it is monstrous that because certain native medical men have committed errors, and possibly lived lives which are below the accepted standard in Europe, all natives should be therefore debarred, no matter how high their professional qualifications. The time has come for plain speaking on this matter, and we ask whether full reports upon the every-day conduct of the European doctors would make pleasant

reading in a London newspaper. A European doctor in a helpless condition enters the principal native church in Lagos and behaves in a grossly unseemly manner, and then has to be carried out by natives. This is a case in point, but it would be unjust to a degree to say that all European doctors in Nigeria drink too heavily on Sundays; it would, however, be much within the truth to say that many of them might show a little more tolerance for the practice of Christianity.

In so far as medical qualifications are concerned many coloured men have carried degrees in London and Edinburgh higher than not a few white doctors in the Colonies to-day; not only so, but they have spent some time in European hospital practice. When, therefore, these men, carrying the highest recommendations and degrees, apply for positions in the Colonies, these medical qualifications should be accepted by the Colonial authorities without any reference to white medical men in the service. To act otherwise, as it is proposed by some, is to call in question the highest medical opinions in the Realm. If public opinion is asked which it will accept—the verdict of the heads of our great hospitals, or that of some unknown medical man, upon the professional qualifications of a given individual—there is little doubt as to the answer which common sense would dictate.

The questions and answers recently given in the House of Commons and recorded in this journal in the Parliamentary news, show into what an *impasse* prejudice has brought British Colonial policy in this matter. We are hopeful, and not without reason, that a change will soon be made, but it may be as well to say at once that those who care for the advancement of native races, and for British honour, will not be content until the medical service is thrown open to fully qualified coloured men of good character. We do not ask for any favours for these men; we ask, and by God's help, we will get—justice.

---

### The New Hebrides Abuses.

A REPORT from a New Hebrides correspondent states that "things are in a very bad state still, but something is being done." The Court sat on three consecutive days lately. In a case of the illegal arrest of a native mission teacher by a recruiter who handcuffed him and carried him away, the offender was brought before the Joint Court, with the help of the British Commissioner, and the Native Advocate made "a first rate speech for the prosecution." The plea of the accused that the case did not come within the jurisdiction of the Joint Court was overruled, but the trial has been twice postponed to enable the accused, who had gone off on a recruiting expedition, to appear.

Our correspondent writes:—

"There is growing discontent among a large section of the British settlers, caused by the difference between the regulations under which they



are supposed to work and the Condominium regulations under which the French are still ruled so far as any law is enforced in their case."

We are very glad to hear later that these abuses have formed the subject of correspondence between the Comité de protection et de défense des Indigènes in Paris and the French Colonial Minister. On June 15 last that Committee wrote calling the Minister's attention to the intolerable abuses which were going on in the New Hebrides, maintaining that the greater number of the regulations of the Convention of 1906 were not observed; while the sale of alcohol was in principle forbidden, the population continued to be literally poisoned by it. The mixed tribunal gave no guarantee of justice to the natives, but worse than all was the manner in which the recruiting of native labour was carried out.

"To speak frankly, it may be asserted that with the passive complicity of the authorities the settlers have re-established a system of slavery."

The Committee quoted the report of M. Viollette on the Colonial Budget of 1912, and declared that the treatment of the natives contracted for labour was in all essential points a system of slavery; in spite of the so-called contract, the native was sold as a chattel.

"We are tolerating on territory where the French flag flies a form of slavery which is hardly less cruel than that formerly practised in the American colonies."

After referring to the action taken by our Society and the British missionaries with the Colonial Office, the writers declared that the situation in the New Hebrides would be irremediably compromised if the French authorities continued to tolerate abuses which laid them open to just attacks.

In his reply the Minister of the Colonies reminded his correspondents of the great difficulties with which the Condominium authorities have had to contend. Minute inquiries into abuses had, he said, been made, but the number of the islands and their distance from one another had made immediate repression of abuses difficult. The Minister mentioned the appointment of four new agents, who were shortly to be installed, and expressed the hope that the presence of these delegates in the most important of the islands of the group would increase the authority of the Resident Commissioners. The French authorities could not, in his view, be accused of negligence or weakness, but their means of supervision had been insufficient. A Native Advocate had arrived at Port Vila, and his presence constituted an important guarantee for the subjects of the Condominium. The abuses of the last few years are bound to disappear in proportion as the effective occupation of the islands by the mixed authorities is developed.

In the Journal of the Presbyterian Church in Victoria (annual New Hebrides Synod number) for September, we read:—

"In many ways it has been a stressful year. . . . But the most disquieting feature has been the persistent disregard of the laws and regulations of the Joint Convention on the part of so many French subjects, and the failure of the authorities to maintain law and order. Synod declares that the situation is grave, and all who have any knowledge of the present position must realise that a crisis has been reached. The best French opinion is with us in deploring the wicked oppression and injustice that are so rampant, and all the good elements in the group would welcome the advent of a strong and righteous Government. Surely we shall not appeal in vain to the authorities of so great and civilised a nation as France to unite with the British authority in seeking to enforce the terms of the Joint Convention, and secure the natives in their just rights."

### Australian Aborigines.

ARCHDEACON LEFROY, who has recently become a corresponding member of our Society, sends us an interesting account of an address recently given by him in Adelaide on the aborigines question. According to a moderate calculation, between seventy-five and eighty thousand aborigines still survive in Australia, mostly in the Northern parts. It is a mistake, Archdeacon Lefroy states, to suppose that cruelty to and neglect of these people in remote places is a thing of the past. Even in the more settled parts of the continent, the surviving natives are still often treated cruelly and unjustly. The favourable side of the present position is that the Government are much more disposed to take action than at any previous time, but Archdeacon Lefroy pointed out that they need the backing and encouragement of a strong public opinion, and he urged that the Churches should do their utmost to create this opinion. The evils which were made known some years ago by Dr. Roth's report on Western Australia were by no means confined to that territory; in the Northern Territory of South Australia the general condition of the natives was little better, and in Queensland their treatment in the past has been extremely bad, the blacks being looked upon as little more than animals who might be worked as slaves.

The Archdeacon's address appears to have led to some correspondence with the Minister for External Affairs, who emphasised the action which had been taken by the Government. In reply Archdeacon Lefroy pointed to the distinction which he had drawn between the past and present treatment of the natives. He had watched carefully the action taken by the Federal Government with regard to the native races in the Northern Territory, and his high hopes had been realised by what the Federal Government had done. The people who had treated the aborigines as inferior animals were the mean, unscrupulous, criminal members of the community, who might be a small section, but were capable of inflicting an immense amount of cruelty and suffering on innocent people.

The *Adelaide Advertiser* declared that it would be impossible seriously to challenge the position which Archdeacon Lefroy has taken up, but that there is reason to believe that even in the back blocks the aborigines are now generally treated with much greater regard to their rights than formerly. The Commonwealth and the States must insist on strict administration of the laws.

A deputation waited recently upon the Colonial Secretary for Western Australia urging the provision of reserves for aborigines and the abolition of the system of their employment by private individuals. The Minister, in reply, said that that proposal presented considerable financial difficulties. Last year the Government had spent £34,000 through the Aborigines Department on medical aid for natives, and a reserve of 4,000,000 acres had recently been set aside for their benefit.

---

### Slavery in Morocco.

OUR honoured corresponding member, M. le Baron du Teil, General Secretary of the French Anti-Slavery Society, recently wrote to call our attention to the closing of the slave market in Morocco City by French authority. On October 8 the Morocco correspondent of *L'Echo de Paris* wrote a description of the market which appeared in that paper. Three days later he wrote: "The slave market has been closed; I must have been one of the last to visit it."

Our Committee has written to M. du Teil congratulating him and the Society on this good news, to which he refers as "notre premier avantage anti-esclavagiste au Maroc."

M. du Teil informs us that the French Society proposes, now that the importation of slaves has become almost impossible in consequence of the occupation of the Algerian-Morocco frontiers and of Mauritania, to enter on a campaign in favour of prohibiting the sale of persons, beginning of course with the prohibition of public markets. But the complete disappearance of slavery cannot, under the conditions which exist, be looked for for many years.

---

### Africans in London.

#### PROPOSED CONFERENCE.

FOR some years past young Africans have been in the habit of coming to England in order to avail themselves of the educational facilities provided in this country. Unfortunately, they have been left to live their lives apart from all intercourse with the more responsible elements of our national life with the inevitable result that they have often found themselves amongst the worst influences of our modern civilisation.

The well-wishers of the African continent have long deplored this condition of affairs, but hitherto no practical suggestions have been made. When Mr. Harris recently returned from West Africa, he made the proposal that the African Society should co-operate with the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society in summoning a joint meeting in order to discuss whether unitedly the Societies could do anything to bring Africans in the Mother-land into some sort of definite touch with Societies interested in Africa.

This matter has now been discussed by the Committee of both Societies, and it has been decided to organise two joint meetings or conferences for some time in April next. To these gatherings members of both Societies will be invited, and all Africans in the country at that time.

Whilst the Committees of both Societies will be jointly associated with the movement, the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society will be responsible for the arrangements of the afternoon meeting, whilst the African Society will organise the evening gathering which will probably take the form of the usual dinner, at the conclusion of which the proceedings of the afternoon will be resumed.

We cannot at this distance forecast anything more definite, but all the indications are that we shall have a most interesting conference with the hope of lasting results to African progress.

### Education in British East Africa.

WE have received letters from Mr. Archibald D. Pike, of the Education Department at Mombasa, calling attention to the opportunities for educational work amongst Arab and Swahili boys in the East Africa Protectorate. Mr. Pike makes a special appeal to members of the Anti-Slavery Society, and we therefore lay his interesting statement before our readers, in the hope that some will be disposed to offer assistance.

The Secretary of the Society will be glad to hear from any who are interested, or they may prefer to communicate direct with Mr. Pike, at the address given.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT,  
MOMBASA, BRITISH EAST AFRICA,

October 14, 1912.

... "We are shortly opening a school for some 200 Arab and Swahili boys here. It has been most difficult to get the money, and I myself have had to labour hours to train men to do the teaching. It is a Government school. We hope His Excellency the Governor will come down and open the school so soon as the small-pox epidemic permits of our beginning work. The building is good and quite imposing, but the equipment is meagre: of pictures for the walls and those little ornamental things so dear to the

heart of the Arab we have none. We have the promise of a few books for the library and of a prize or two.

"This school should interest you. When the Government took away the slaves from the Arabs, these last asked, 'What will become of our sons?' The Government replied, 'We will educate them and find them positions in Government offices; train them to be skilled tradesmen; overseers of plantations, etc., etc.' At last this school is about to be opened. We have been so long about it that the Arab is a little cynical. I want the Arab to feel that the European really is interested in him, and nothing makes him feel this like something tangible.

"I wonder if your Society could see its way clear to give a medal each year for good conduct, all round progress—anything you like. Again, we are in need of books for the library—books with lots of pictures in them. I am agitating for a grant for a magic lantern as it is my aim to make this school the intellectual centre, so to speak, of the Arab community, and I have already got promises for half a dozen lectures. I am afraid if we are ever to get that magic lantern, it will be as the gift from some one.

"Anything given by their avowed opposers could not fail to impress these old slave owners and their sons with the generosity and sincerity of those whom they still regard as the men who ruined them and their families."

In a later letter Mr. Pike mentions the importance which he feels, after a long talk with an official of the Bacteriological Department, of obtaining a microscope. "If we could get hold of one," he writes, "we might do really good work amongst these boys coming from the districts where plague and small-pox is most common."

### Meetings, etc.

A NUMBER of public and other meetings have been held during the last quarter of the year in the interest of the Society, at most of which addresses have been given by the Rev. J. H. Harris. These include a large public meeting in the Town Hall, Altrincham, on October 11, at which Sir Charles Behrens presided, supported by Archdeacon Maitland Wood, Mr. G. Faulkner Armitage, Professor Hall and others, as a result of which a local committee was formed to co-operate with the Society; two public meetings at King's Lynn on October 13; a meeting at Salisbury on October 15 under the auspices of the League of Honour, at which the Mayor presided; a reception at Croydon given by Mrs. King Lewis on October 22, at which both our Organising Secretaries spoke; and two drawing-room meetings, one of which was kindly given at her house at Ascot on October 24, by H.H. the Ranee of Sarawak, who has since joined our Committee, and another on November 26 at 16, Portland Place, by the kind invitation of Mrs. McKinnon Wood. Mrs. Harris gave an address at both these meetings, and Mr. Buxton also spoke on the latter occasion. The Society is greatly indebted to all these

friends for their valuable assistance, and to the ladies for the opportunities thus given of making known the Society's work. It is hoped that others may be able to offer the same service to the Society, and we shall be glad if they will communicate with Mrs. Harris at the Office. Two or three drawing-room meetings are already promised for the early part of the year.

Mr. Harris spoke to a vast crowd at Whitefield's Central Mission on Sunday, October 27, on "The Price of Rubber." His address, which was listened to with intense interest, was reported in many newspapers.

Two other Sunday afternoon meetings for men were addressed by the Secretary in December, at Marylebone Presbyterian Church, and the Chiswick Brotherhood respectively.

Other recent meetings have been held as follows:—

Westbourne Park Church (Rev. Dr. Clifford's), October 29. Lantern Lecture by Rev. J. H. Harris.

Purley, December 5. Purley Social Service Conference. Speaker, Miss Foster Browne.

Regent's Park Church (Rev. F. B. Meyer's), December 2. Lantern Lecture on West Africa. Speaker, Rev. J. H. Harris.

Holborn Hall, December 10. Metropolitan Federation of Free Churches. Resolutions on Putumayo and Portuguese Slavery moved by Rev. J. H. Harris.

An Exhibition of Mrs. Harris' photographs taken during her recent travels took place in Manchester on December 12 and 13, under the auspices of the Manchester Geographical Society.

Meetings in the New Year are either fixed or in course of preparation at Wood Green (Jan. 5), Newcastle, Gateshead, Pelaw, Felling (Jan. 19 to 22), Brighton (Jan. 22), Dulwich (Jan. 26), Stockton, Street (Jan. 29), Bethnal Green (Jan. 30), Marylebone (Feb. 13), Wisbech, West Norwood (March 2), Newcastle (March 10), and Bristol (April 21 and 22).

### The Committee.

WE are glad to announce that Her Highness the Raneé of Sarawak has accepted an invitation to join our Committee, and that Mrs. King Lewis, who resigned her place on the Committee in May, 1910, for personal reasons, has consented again to become a member. Mrs. King Lewis takes such a close interest in the Society's work, which she constantly helps in many ways, that we replace her name on the Committee list with special satisfaction.

Sir Henry Cotton has forwarded his resignation to the Committee, which has been accepted with regret and an expression of appreciation of the valuable services which he has rendered to the Society.



# LITERATURE.

*Recently published by the Society.*

---

## THE PERUVIAN RUBBER CRIME.

By Rev. J. H. HARRIS.

(Reprinted from the *Daily Chronicle*.)

*Price 3d.*

---

## PORTUGUESE SLAVERY AND BRITISH RESPONSIBILITY.

Memorandum from the Society to Sir E. GREY, 15th July, 1912.

---

## NEW BOOK.

## DAWN IN DARKEST AFRICA.

By JOHN H. HARRIS, F.R.G.S.

With an Introduction by the Rt. Hon. THE EARL OF CROMER.

(*Smith, Elder & Co. Price 10/6 net.*)

Every copy sold through the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society is  
an advantage to its funds.

---

TO BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICES OF THE SOCIETY.

friends for their valuable assistance, and to the ladies for the opportunities thus given of making known the Society's work. It is hoped that others may be able to offer the same service to the Society, and we shall be glad if they will communicate with Mrs. Harris at the Office. Two or three drawing-room meetings are already promised for the early part of the year.

Mr. Harris spoke to a vast crowd at Whitefield's Central Mission on Sunday, October 27, on "The Price of Rubber." His address, which was listened to with intense interest, was reported in many newspapers.

Two other Sunday afternoon meetings for men were addressed by the Secretary in December, at Marylebone Presbyterian Church, and the Chiswick Brotherhood respectively.

Other recent meetings have been held as follows:—

Westbourne Park Church (Rev. Dr. Clifford's), October 29. Lantern Lecture by Rev. J. H. Harris.

Purley, December 5. Purley Social Service Conference. Speaker, Miss Foster Browne.

Regent's Park Church (Rev. F. B. Meyer's), December 2. Lantern Lecture on West Africa. Speaker, Rev. J. H. Harris.

Holborn Hall, December 10. Metropolitan Federation of Free Churches. Resolutions on Putumayo and Portuguese Slavery moved by Rev. J. H. Harris.

An Exhibition of Mrs. Harris' photographs taken during her recent travels took place in Manchester on December 12 and 13, under the auspices of the Manchester Geographical Society.

Meetings in the New Year are either fixed or in course of preparation at Wood Green (Jan. 5), Newcastle, Gateshead, Pelaw, Felling (Jan. 19 to 22), Brighton (Jan. 22), Dulwich (Jan. 26), Stockton, Street (Jan. 29), Bethnal Green (Jan. 30), Marylebone (Feb. 13), Wisbech, West Norwood (March 2), Newcastle (March 10), and Bristol (April 21 and 22).

### The Committee.

WE are glad to announce that Her Highness the Ranee of Sarawak has accepted an invitation to join our Committee, and that Mrs. King Lewis, who resigned her place on the Committee in May, 1910, for personal reasons, has consented again to become a member. Mrs. King Lewis takes such a close interest in the Society's work, which she constantly helps in many ways, that we replace her name on the Committee list with special satisfaction.

Sir Henry Cotton has forwarded his resignation to the Committee, which has been accepted with regret and an expression of appreciation of the valuable services which he has rendered to the Society.

# LITERATURE.

*Recently published by the Society.*

---

## THE PERUVIAN RUBBER CRIME.

By Rev. J. H. HARRIS.

(Reprinted from the *Daily Chronicle*.)

*Price 3d.*

---

## PORTUGUESE SLAVERY AND BRITISH RESPONSIBILITY.

Memorandum from the Society to Sir E. GREY, 15th July, 1912.

---

## NEW BOOK.

### DAWN IN DARKEST AFRICA.

By JOHN H. HARRIS, F.R.G.S.

With an Introduction by the Rt. Hon. THE EARL OF CROMER.

(*Smith, Elder & Co. Price 10/6 net.*)

Every copy sold through the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society is  
an advantage to its funds.

---

TO BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICES OF THE SOCIETY.

# The Anti-Slavery & Aborigines Protection Society

## President :

SIR THOMAS FOWELL BUXTON, BART., G.C.M.G.

## Vice-Presidents :

HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

RT. REV. LORD BISHOP OF HEREFORD.

RT. HON. LORD COURTNEY OF PENWITH.

RT. HON. LORD PECKOVER OF WISBECH.

RT. HON. LORD WEARDALE.

RT. HON. JOSEPH A. PEASE, M.P.

MRS. JOHN P. THOMASSON.

GEORGE CADBURY, Esq.

SIR H. H. JOHNSTON, G.C.M.G.

THOMAS HODGKIN, Esq., D.C.L.

JOHN HOLT, Esq.

SIR ALFRED E. PEASE, BART.

WILLIAM RANSOM, Esq.

FRANCIS RECKITT, Esq.

SIR JAMES RECKITT, BART.

JOSEPH ROWNTREE, Esq.

C. P. SCOTT, Esq.

H. C. STEPHENS, Esq.

J. ST. LOE STRACHEY, Esq.

PROFESSOR WESTLAKE, K.C.

H. W. W. WILBERFORCE, Esq., J.P.

## Vice-Chairman :

FRANCIS WILLIAM FOX, Esq.

## Treasurers :

SIR COLIN SCOTT MONCRIEFF, K.C.M.G.

E. WRIGHT BROOKS, Esq., J.P.

## Committee :

W. A. ALBRIGHT, Esq.

J. G. ALEXANDER, Esq., LL.B.

MRS. C. E. ALEXANDER.

NOEL BUXTON, Esq., M.P.

SIR W. P. BYLES, M.P.

JOEL CADBURY, Esq.

MRS. JOEL CADBURY. [M.P.]

LORD HENRY CAVENDISH-BENTINCK,

REV. M. J. ELLIOTT.

R. W. FELKIN, Esq., M.D.

REV. LAWSON FORFEITT.

REV. H. R. GAMBLE, M.A.

REV. R. C. GILLIE, M.A.

G. P. GOOCH, Esq.

HENRY GURNEY, Esq.

R. C. HAWKIN, Esq.

MRS. S. F. HURNARD.

MRS. KING LEWIS.

DONALD MACKENZIE, Esq.

P. A. MOLTENO, Esq., M.P.

THE DOWAGER LADY MONKSWELL.

W. CAREY MORGAN, Esq.

HENRY W. NEVINSON, Esq.

H. J. OGDEN, Esq.

ALFRED W. OKE, Esq.

JOHN M. ROBERTSON, Esq., M.P.

H. H. THE RANEE OF SARAWAK.

LADY SCOTT.

A. MACCALLUM SCOTT, Esq., M.P.

LESLIE SCOTT, Esq., K.C., M.P.

MRS. SAUL SOLOMON.

MRS. COBDEN UNWIN.

## Parliamentary Committee :

Chairman : RT. HON. J. W. WILSON, M.P.

## Conveners :

NOEL BUXTON, Esq., M.P.

T. E. HARVEY, Esq., M.P.

HON. J. C. LYTTTELTON, M.P.

J. R. MACDONALD, Esq., M.P.

## Corresponding Members :

G. T. ABRINES, Esq., Tangier.

FRANK ALLEN, Esq.

B. R. BALFOUR, Esq., Drogheda.

THEODORE BURTT, Esq., Pamba.

M. RENE CLAPARÈDE, Geneva.

WILLIAM HARVEY, Esq., Leeds.

M. JEAN PAUL DE HOOG, Teheran.

CAPTAIN E. C. HÖRF, Tasmania.

G. P. HUNOT, Esq., British Vice-Consul, Saffee.

RIGHT REV. BISHOP JOHNSON, Lagos.

M. HIPPOLYTE LAROCHE, Paris, Ancien Résident

Général de France, Madagascar.

VEN. ARCDIEACON LEFROY, South Australia.

M. LE PROP. G. BONET MAURY, Paris.

A. C. MORASSO, Esq., Gibraltar.

M. LE PROP. EDOUARD NAVILLE, Geneva.

M. LE COMTE DE ST. GEORGE, Geneva.

COMM. ATTILIO SIMONETTI, Rome.

WILLIAM SUMMERS, Esq., Madrid.

C. A. SWAN, Esq., Lisbon.

M. LE BARON JOSEPH DU TEIL, Paris.

RIGHT REV. BISHOP TUCKER.

M. LE COMTE D'URSEL, Brussels.

## Secretary :

TRAVERS BUXTON, M.A.

Organising Secretaries : REV. J. H. AND MRS. HARRIS.

Bankers : MESSRS. BARCLAY & Co., LTD., 95, Victoria Street, S.W.

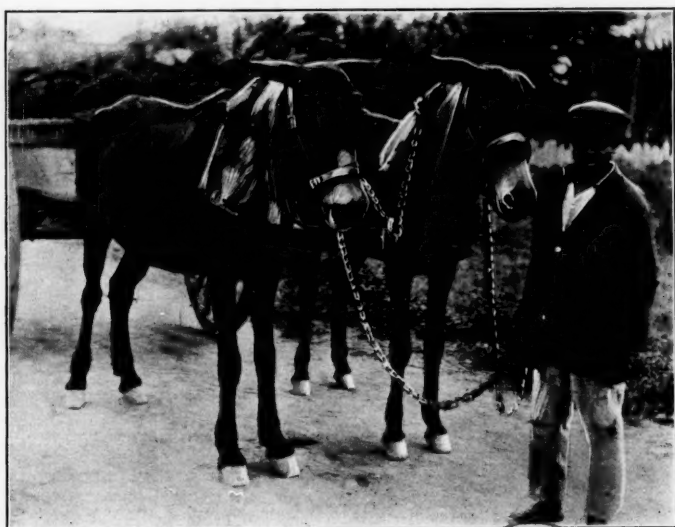
Auditors : MESSRS. SELLARS, DICKSEE & Co., 48, Copthall Avenue, E.C.

L246. c. 1. 58

The  
**Anti-Slavery Reporter**  
and Aborigines' Friend

Series V., Vol. 3, No. 1

April, 1913



Cocoa Cart, San Thomé.

Price Fourpence



Published under the sanction and at the Offices of  
**The Anti-Slavery & Aborigines Protection Society**  
51, Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge Road  
London, S.W.